

A P L A N

For the Establishment of CHARITY - HOUSES for
Exposed or Deserted WOMEN and GIRLS, and
for PENITENT PROSTITUTES.

OBSERVATIONS concerning the FOUNDLING-HOSPITAL,
Shewing the Ill Consequences of giving *Public Support* thereto.

CONSIDERATIONS

RELATING TO

The POOR and the POOR's - LAWS of *ENGLAND*;

Wherein the great Increases of *Unemployed Poor*, and of *Thieves and Prostitutes*,
are shewn to be immediately owing to the *Severity*, as well as the *Defects* of
our POOR's - LAWS; and to be primarily caused by the *Monopolizing*
of FARMS, and the *Inclosure* of COMMON LANDS; which have
likewise *decreased* the NUMBER of PEOPLE, and brought our
WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES into a *precarious State*, as is made
appear by Extracts from several Laws and other Authorities.

A L S O,

A NEW SYSTEM OF POLICY,

Most humbly proposed, for *Relieving, Employing, and Ordering*
the POOR of *ENGLAND*,

Whereby a great SAVING may be made in the Charge of Maintaining Them;
the POOR's - RATES be kept nearly EQUAL in all Parishes, as in
EQUITY they ought to be; and every PRETENCE for wandering
about BEGGING, be taken away.

To which are annexed,

FORMS of the principal ACCOUNTS necessary to be kept for those Purposes,
whereby such Persons as are not conversant in *Accounting* will easily be
able to comprehend all that is here proposed on that Head.

By J. Massie.

L O N D O N:

Printed for T. PAYNE, in *Castle-Street*, next the *Mews* Upper Gate, *Charing-Cross*;
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(Price Sewed, Three Shillings.)

For the Establishment of CHARITY-HOUSES
 for PENITENT PROSTITUTES
 OBSERVATIONS concerning the Ill Consequences
 Shewing the Ill Consequences of Public Support thereof



—————

The POOR and the POOR'S-LAWS of ENGLAND
 wherein the great Injustice of the present Poor-Laws, and of the present Poor-Laws
 are shown to be intrinsically contrary to the Liberty, as well as the Justice of
 our POOR'S-LAWS; and to be generally confuted by the Injustice of the present
 of FARMS, and the Injustice of COMMON LANDS; which have
 likewise increased the NUMBER of POOR, and have
 WOMEN MANUFACTURES into Poverty, and have
 appear by Extracts from several Laws and other Authorities

NEW SYSTEM OF POLICY
 FOR

CHARITY-HOUSES was sent to The **SOCIETY**
 for Encouraging *Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce,*

17th May 1758.

Whereby a great SAVINGS is made in the Expence of maintaining them;
 the POOR'S-RATES are kept much LOWER, and the POOR are enabled to
 EARN their Livelihood, and every PRETENCE for maintaining
 about BEGGING, is taken away.

—————

FORMS of the principal ACCOUNTS necessary to be kept in every
 whereby such Persons as are not conversant in accounting will easily be
 able to comprehend all that is here proposed on this Head.

By J. Mather.

L O N D O N
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CONTENTS.

A PLAN for the Establishment of CHARITY - HOUSES.

PART I. **R**EASONS for Establishing Charity-Houses for *exposed or deserted Women and Girls*, as well as for *Penitent Prostitutes* — Under what Circumstances Women and Girls should be allowed the Benefit thereof — In what Sorts of Work they should be there Employed, and in what Manner provided for afterwards, &c. Pages 1 to 12.

PART II. Means whereby *Eight Thousand Pounds* a Year may be equitably and easily Raised in aid of voluntary Subscriptions, toward the Establishment and Support of such Charity-Houses, &c. Pages 13 to 20.

PART III. A Distribution of the honorary Business of Charity-Houses, for *exposed or deserted Women and Girls*, between the Gentlemen and the Ladies who subscribe thereto — The superior and the subordinate Officers necessary to be appointed, and the several Matters to be taken into Consideration at each general Meeting of those Gentlemen and Ladies, until the Charity-Houses are completely established, &c. Pages 21 to 31.

PART IV. The Necessity of establishing at some Miles Distance from *London* the Charity-Houses for *Penitent Prostitutes*, of separating those Prostitutes into Classes according to their Education, present Behaviour, &c. and of having the several Classes provided for in separate Houses — The preparatory Measures to be taken for the Establishment of such Charity-Houses — The Work in which those Penitents should be Employed, and the future Provision that should be made for them, &c. Pages 32 to 43.

Miscellaneous Propositions relating to Charity-Houses of these Two Sorts. Pages 43 and 44.

OBSERVATIONS concerning the *Foundling-Hospital*, Shewing the Ill Consequences of giving *Public Support* thereto. Pages 45 to 48, and 145, 146.

CONSIDERATIONS relating to the *Poor* and the *Poor's-Laws* of *England*, &c. viz.

The great Increase of *Unemployed Poor*, is immediately owing to a *parochial Separation* of them — The great Increases of *Thieves, Prostitutes, and Beggars*, are immediately caused, partly by a *Want of Employment*, partly by the *Want of proper Provision* for distressed working People when out of the Parishes to which they belong, and partly by the *Severity* of our *Poor's-Laws* in decreeing the SAME Punishments for *Begging* as for *Stealing*, &c. Pages 49 to 60.

The C O N T E N T S.

The present general Method of Relieving and Ordering the *Poor* was proper in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, when first established; but hath been made very improper for near a Hundred Years past, by several Alterations in the State of *England* with respect to Trade, and by the Discontinuance of a proper Intermixture of *Tillage* and *Pasture* in each County, but most of all, by the Inclosure of *Common Fields* and *Commons*, &c. Pages 60 to 63.

The Monopolizing of *Farms*, and the Inclosure of *Common Lands*, are the superior and general Causes of a numerous *Poor*; the same have likewise caused great Depopulation within Two Hundred Years last past, weakened the *Natural Guard* of *England*, and brought the *Woollen Manufacturies* thereof into a precarious State; all which Matters are made to appear by Extracts from several of our Laws and other Authorities, &c. Pages 63 to 88.

Queries to the Landholders of *England* concerning those Matters. Pages 89 to 91.
Remarks upon Sir *William Petty's*, Dr *Davenant's*, and Mr *Gregory King's* Calculations of the Number of People in *England*, and of the supposed Increase therein, &c. Pages 91 to 94.

Concerning the present Method of Settling the *Poor*. Pages 94 to 100.

———— of Removing the *Poor*. Pages 100 and 101.

Recapitulations concerning Depopulation, and the *Poor*. Pages 102 and 103.

A Distribution of the Profits arising from Labour. Pages 104 to 106.

A NEW SYSTEM OF POLICY for Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the POOR.

Fundamental Principles. Page 107.

Fundamental Propositions. Pages 108 to 110.

The National Advantages which would be gained by carrying into Execution those Propositions. Pages 111 to 122.

Constitutional Propositions, viz.

Relating to Trustees and Governors of the *Poor*, and to Houses of Maintenance and Employment in each County, &c. Pages 123 to 125.

———— Commissioners for the *Poor* of *England* and *Wales*, to Visiting and Removing the *Poor*, to keeping the Accounts, &c. Pages 125 to 130.

———— Beggars, idle or refractory *Poor*, disorderly working People, the Detection and Punishment of real Vagabonds and pilfering Thieves, &c. Pages 130 to 134.

———— Inspectors-General into the Management of the *Poor* of *England* and *Wales*, and to other Matters. Pages 135 to 137.

Our present Methods of Relieving and Ordering the *Poor*, contrasted with the Methods here proposed for those Purposes, &c. Pages 137 to 141.

An Estimate of the Annual Charge of the superior, general, and honorary Business of Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the *Poor* of *England* and *Wales*, according to the Methods herein proposed, &c. Pages 141 to 143.

The previous Steps necessary to be taken for carrying into Execution the Matters so proposed. Pages 143 and 144.

An Advertisement concerning Ways and Means to Raise the Extraordinary Supplies for the Year 1759. Page 146.



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PART I.

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of Charity-Houses to receive and employ or Educate

as well as to receive, Employ,
and Penitent Houses; for it is a very laborious and

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of a great Measure did up,
these various sorts of necessity be vainly diminished, and the Labour as

FOR THE

ESTABLISHMENT

of
Who can hope, that a hundred Salaries will be more than sufficient to

CHARITY-HOUSES.



THE first Part of this Plan is formed with a View to prevent those Sorts of Evils which the latter Part thereof is intended to cure; as it is not only more charitable and humane, but less difficult and expensive, to prevent Women and Girls from being driven to Prostitution than to reclaim them when they are Prostitutes: For Peace of Mind and Health of Body are essentially necessary to make People happy in themselves, and useful Members of Society; and when Guilt and Disease have made Havock in those Requisites to Happiness and Utility, it is rather to be wished than expected, that Penitence will repair the one, or Medicine restore the other.

The first and great Care in establishing a Charity of this Kind should therefore be, to remove, as far as is practicable, the Causes of common Prostitution; for though a Reclaimed Prostitute is under great Obligations to her Reclaimers, yet are these small when compared with the Obligations she would have been under, if their Bounty had preserved her in Innocence and Health: and there is too much Reason to fear, that Disease, Sentence

of Law, or slow Suicide, do and will prevent many Women and Girls from being Reclaimed, whom a little seasonable and proper Relief would have prevented from becoming Prostitutes; so that if the Root of this Evil be not struck at, it will continue to send forth numerous Successions of Prostitutes, as Repentance, Disease, Sentence of Law, or Suicide, carry off the old ones.

And as it is notorious that Necessity is the general Cause of common Prostitution, that very Notoriety is the strongest Argument imaginable for the Establishment of Charity-Houses to Receive and Employ or Educate exposed or deserted Women and Girls, as well as to Receive, Employ, and Reclaim, Penitent Prostitutes; for it is a very laborious and expensive Undertaking to purify the Streams of a corrupted Fountain, but if the Reservoir from whence it is supplied can be in a great Measure dried up, those Streams must of Necessity be vastly diminished, and the Labour as well as Expence of purifying them be very much lessened.

Who can say, that One hundred Shillings would not have prevented a Hundred unfortunate Women and Girls from becoming Prostitutes, if that small Relief had been given to them in their fatal Hours of Necessity? or, Who can hope, that a Hundred Shillings will be more than sufficient to Reclaim one Woman from common Prostitution, and to put her in a Way of maintaining herself honestly and comfortably for the future?

Certainly these Matters do highly merit the Consideration of all humane and charitably disposed Persons; and as their Importance cannot fail of gaining Attention to them, in an Assembly of Personages and Persons who have nobly associated to promote the Interests of their Country and the Good of Mankind, I shall not make any Apology for offering to their Consideration more than they purposely meet to consider; for though the *first* Part thereof be out of the Limits of their Prescription, yet I am persuaded, that the Whole of it is within the Pale of their Benevolence.

I shall therefore consider in the first Place, Who are proper Objects to be received into Charity-Houses of the first named Sort?—for when the Bounds of this Charity are settled, the Substance of such Rules as are necessary for making it effectual, will naturally rise from the various Circumstances of the Persons intitled to Relief: those Circumstances will likewise suggest, what subordinate Officers should be appointed for the well Governing, Employing, Instructing or Educating of the several Women and Girls who shall be allowed the Benefit of this Charity, and at the same Time furnish Matter to form proper Instructions for the Guidance of those Officers.

As the main Object of this Part of the proposed Establishment is, to prevent Women and Girls from being driven by Necessity to become
Prostitutes,

Prostitutes, or to enter into some other evil Courses of Life, it will be requisite to mention the several Circumstances under which they are or probably may be so driven; and, with Submission to superior Judgments, I humbly apprehend, that all such Women and Girls as now are or shall hereafter come under any of the following Circumstances, must be in Danger of being driven to evil Courses, and therefore should be intitled to the Benefit of the intended Establishment.

First. Women or Girls who come from some Part of *Great Britain* or the Dominions thereunto belonging, in order to go into Service or to be Employed in some Kind of Manufactory or Labour, in or near this Metropolis; but cannot get speedy Employment, and are destitute of Money and Friends.

Second. Women or Girls who have been in Service or in some other honest Employment, in *London, Westminster, or Southwark*, or within One Mile of the Suburbs thereof; but cannot get other Service or Employment, and are destitute of Money and Friends.

Third. Such Wives or Widows and young Children of *Manufacturers, Labourers, Seamen, or Soldiers*, as shall be destitute of Support, and do either belong to Parishes which are not in this Metropolis, or within One Mile of the Suburbs thereof, or do not know where their Places of Settlement are.

Fourth. Girls who shall be seen wandering about the Streets or Suburbs of *London, Westminster, or Southwark*, in a wretched Condition, and be thought too young for Prostitutes, or not appear to have been so; and who are either destitute of Parents and Relations, or have such as cannot or will not maintain them, or are very unfit Persons to have the Care of Children.

Fifth. Women or Girls who had usually maintained themselves by Service or some other honest Employment, but were rendered incapable of doing so, by some Accident, Disease (the foul one excepted), or a bad State of Health; and who neither were intitled to proper Relief from any Parish in this Metropolis or within One Mile of the Suburbs thereof, nor could be admitted or long enough continued In-Patients to any Hospital. — Such Women and Girls to be received into Wards or other Apartments to be assigned for that Purpose; there to be maintained, provided with Medicines, &c. and Employed in some Kind of easy Work, till they were able to follow their former or some other honest Employments, and could be accordingly employed.

More Classes of exposed or deserted Women, Girls, or young Children, may possibly be thought of, whose Circumstances make them proper Objects for this Charity; but these Five Classes include all which at present occur to me, and I humbly apprehend that every one of the said Classes should be intitled to the Benefit of this Foundation: for most of the common Prostitutes and Female Thieves in this City, did undoubtedly become such, under one or other of the Circumstances of Distress before named; and if happily there had been proper Houses of Charity for their Relief, great Numbers of them would certainly have been preserved in Innocence, Health, and honest Industry.

This sad Truth is too striking for any Person to doubt of, nor can it be doubted that those miserable Women have been the Ruin of a much greater Number of Men; and there is too much Reason to fear, that Disease hath in many Instances reached and proved fatal to innocent Women and Children, which is the more lamentable as it was undeserved: and since the unhappy Neglect to make proper Provision for exposed or deserted Women and Girls is attended with so long a Train of wide-wasting Evils, the very Thought of such Ravages among our Fellow-Creatures must be shocking to every benevolent Person, and make any further Arguments on this Head, seem Insults to their Humanity.

The Establishment of this Charity upon so extensive a Foundation would indeed be attended with a great Expence; but then it should be considered, that whatever the Expence thereof might at any Time amount to, it could not be greater than the Evils, Miseries, and Distresses, which would be thereby prevented, put a Stop to, or lessened:—And I am persuaded, that the Expence would not be near so great as the Five Classes of Objects before mentioned may at first give Reason to expect; for though Charity and Humanity require, that every Class of exposed or deserted Women and Girls should have proper Relief, yet it doth not by any Means follow, that they should remain upon the intended Foundation any longer than their several Circumstances shall make requisite.

It is not necessary that Women or Girls who had usually maintained or were capable of maintaining themselves by honest Industry, should continue in a Preservatory any longer than till Service or other Employment could be found for them; and as they would in the mean Time be employed in some Branch of Manufactory or other useful Work, the Profits arising from their Labour would generally be sufficient to provide them with Meat and Drink.

For there are great Numbers of Women who not only maintain themselves by honest Industry, but a Child or Children also, and, by such common

common Sorts of Work as Women or Girls of ordinary Capacities may easily learn ; so that if all the exposed or deserted Women and Girls in this Metropolis can be constantly Employed in some such Sorts of Work, without depriving any or many *British* or *Irish* Women or Girls of Employment, it will be happy indeed.

For if this can be done, the charitable and humane Intentions of the Personages and Persons who have already subscribed or shall hereafter subscribe, to support a Foundation of this Kind, may be effectually answered in their full Extent, and at a moderate Expence ; because every exposed or deserted Woman or grown-up Girl who continued in Health, during the Time of her Abode in the proposed Preservatory or general Manufactory, might then be protected and maintained without putting the Foundation to much real Charge.

And in that Case, the Relieving and Employing of exposed or deserted Women and Girls, in such *Preservatories and general Manufacturies*, would not produce a Want of Relief and Employment for other *British* or *Irish* Women and Girls who live by their Industry, which is a Matter of Importance to these Kingdoms, as well as to the Happiness and Prosperity of Individuals ; for if exposed or deserted Women and Girls should be employed to make such Things or to do such Work in a Preservatory as must take away Employment and Maintenance from other Women or Girls in *London*, or in some Part of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, it would defeat the true End and Design of the Foundation, because *that would distress as many British Subjects as it relieved.*

For supposing, that any one Branch of *British* Manufactory, which now gives Employment and Maintenance to a Thousand Women and Girls in some Country Parish, should be set up in *London*, by Order of the Governors of the proposed Foundation ; the Consequence thereof must necessarily be, a Loss of Employment and Maintenance to a Thousand Women and Girls in the said Country Parish, so that Distress would increase there as Charity decreased it here : and if several Branches of *British* Manufactory should be so set up, the Distress thereby caused would not be at all less, though, by being divided among different Parishes in distant Places, it might be more easily borne, and therefore would be less taken Notice of ; but in either Case, the same Number of *British* Women and Girls would be deprived of Employment, and must become Burthens to their several Parishes, or be driven to seek for Maintenance in other Places or by other Means, which might expose many of them to Distress, if not to evil Courses of Life.

I should not have been so particular in these Matters if I had not been convinced, that the Good intended by this proposed Establishment doth

primarily depend upon the Manner of Employing exposed or deserted Women and Girls who shall be intitled to the Benefit of it ; and there is the greater Reason for being particular on this Head, as some worthy Gentlemen, who have lately published their Thoughts concerning an Establishment of this Kind, seem to have either mistaken or not to have sufficiently attended to this great and leading Principle.

For if the proposed Foundation should unhappily be begun upon wrong Principles with respect to the Manner of Employing and Providing for the distressed People who shall be allowed the Benefit thereof, much Money will be expended without answering the real Intentions of the Noble and the Worthy Benefactors ; and this must unavoidably be the Consequence of Employing exposed or deserted Women and Girls in any Branches of *British* Manufactory which will deprive other *British* Women and Girls of Employment ; for that is surely far from being the Intention of the Subscribers.

I shall therefore take the Liberty of mentioning what, I humbly apprehend, should be made Fundamental Rules in regard to the Manner of Employing and making future Provision for such exposed or deserted Women and Girls as shall be allowed the Benefit of the Charitable Establishment now under Consideration.

First. That the chief Employment of those Women and Girls should be,—
Spinning such Sorts of *Linen Yarn* as are imported into *Great Britain* from some Country that doth not belong to the *British* Crown ; — or ;
Spinning of *Linen Yarn* that will be proper to make such Sorts of *Linen Cloth* as are imported into this Kingdom from some Country as aforesaid. — The coarser Sorts of Yarn to be preferred, as they require less Skill to spin them.

Second. That no one Branch of *BRITISH Woollen Manufactory* should be carried on by the said Women or Girls any farther than was requisite for supplying them, or other Women, Girls, or Children, upon the Establishment, with wearing Apparel, and the Rooms or Wards by them inhabited, with necessary Furniture ; but that no Women or Girls should be so Employed whenever they could be Employed in the Spinning of *Linen Yarn* as aforesaid.

Third. That such Women and Girls as were remarkably ingenious should be instructed and employed in making some Sort of curious Manufactures which may be wrought by Women and Girls, and are now imported into *Great Britain* from some Country that doth not belong to the *British* Crown.

Fourth.

Fourth. That the *Linen Yarn, curious Manufactures*, and every other Thing wrought for Sale, by the said Women and Girls, should be kept in a Warehouse or Warehouses to be provided for that Purpose in this City; to the End that all Personages and Persons who shall be disposed to buy such Manufactures, preferably to others of the like Kinds, might be assured that their Charitable and Patriotic Intentions were not defeated.

The Values of all such Manufactures to be previously ascertained, by competent Judges of their Worth, which should be wrote on Tickets and affixed to the several Things, as well as entered in proper Register-Books; so that the Benevolent might not pay more, nor Those who hunt after unfair Pennyworths pay less, than the just Value of what they bought, or the Charity be burthened with keeping Officers to talk much and sell but little.

Fifth. That every Woman or grown-up Girl who was in Health at the Time when a proper Place or Employment was found or offered for her, should then be discharged to go to such Place or Employment; unless she was useful in carrying on some new Manufactory, or in educating Girls, instructing other Women and Girls, &c. in which Cases, all reasonable and proper Encouragement should be given her to stay and carry on the Business wherein she was found useful to the Establishment: or unless she could shew reasonable Cause why she should be longer allowed the Benefit of the Foundation; of which, a Governor or other proper Officer should determine.

Sixth. That all the lesser Girls should be instructed in *Spinning of Linen Yarn, plain Sewing* *, and *Reading*; — and when they were of proper Ages to be Apprentices or Servants, they should be accordingly bound for a reasonable Number of Years, to such reputed honest and humane Mistresses or Masters in this Metropolis, or in some Part of *Great Britain*, as could be found for or should apply to have them: excepting such Girls as were or might be very useful in carrying on some new Manufactory, for those should be continued upon the Foundation till they were One-and-twenty Years of Age; at which Time they should be at Liberty to leave the Foundation, if they were so inclined; or, otherwise, they should have proper Encouragement to continue there.

The making and observing of some such Fundamental Rules as are here mentioned, seem to me to be essentially necessary for attaining, in the most

* All the *Woollen and Linen-Cloathing* which shall be provided at the Expence of this Foundation, should be made up by the Girls, under the Direction of those Mistresses who had the Care of them; but no Sewing Work should be done for other People, unless there was an absolute Want of it in order to instruct the Girls.

extensive, effectual, and frugal Manner, the great and good Ends proposed by the intended Establishment; because all exposed or deserted Women and Girls might be thereby relieved as long as they wanted Relief, and at the same Time be employed in such a Way as would not only bring certain Profit to the Kingdom and to the Foundation, but enable those Women and Girls to make better Wives.

For as *Linen Cloth* is a common and very great Necessary of Life, there is a Certainty that it will be always in Fashion and very much wanted; so that if those Women and Girls should annually spin *Linen Yarn* as aforesaid, to the Value of *Four Thousand Pounds* exclusive of the Materials, this Kingdom would thereby probably gain £4000 a Year: because the Ballance of Trade between *Great Britain* and *Russia*, as well as some other Northern Countries from whence we have coarse *Linen Cloth*, is well known to be much against us; and therefore I may truly say, that this Kingdom would certainly gain Four Thousand Pounds a Year by the before named Means.

The Profits which arise from *Spinning of Linen Yarn* are indeed very small, but then the Certainty of those Profits is a great Matter, in the present Case; and I much doubt whether any Sort of Employment can be found for exposed or deserted Women and Girls that would produce more Profit to the proposed Foundation: because it cannot be expected that many of such Women and Girls would be over-tractable or ingenious, when their general Manner of Life is considered; so that the greater Part of them would be long in learning Things which required much Ingenuity, and the Foundation be at a great Charge for instructing them in Trades by which they could not afterwards get their Bread.

It should likewise be considered, that there is a wide Difference between *forming a separate Community of exposed or deserted Women and Girls*, and *giving them proper Relief and Instruction till they are fit for and can be received into the great Community*, from which, Accidents or Misfortunes have unhappily driven them: for the Former must unavoidably be attended with a very great Expence to the Foundation, and the setting up of Trades in a Preservatory which are already carried on extensively here, must be detrimental to the Nation; but the Latter may be done at a moderate Expence, and with an absolute Certainty of Gain to *Great Britain* as well as of not interfering with any established Branch of *British* Manufactory.

Those Persons who maintain themselves and Families by carrying on Manufactory or Trade, must best know when there are too few People in their several Branches; and as they do not take poor Children for Apprentices till they want them, the Wants of such Persons would best direct what Employments exposed or deserted Girls should be brought up to: for since such Women and Girls are unhappy
Out-casts

Out-casts of Society, the first and great Care should be, to fit them for and help them into Society ; because that would soonest ease the Foundation of Expence, and be the most likely Way to promote their future Welfare, as it would be the Interest of their Mistresses and Masters to train them up in Industry, Honesty, and Sobriety.

And as the *Spinning of Linen Yarn* may be easily learned, it would be a constant Fund of Employment for all the Women and Girls who were capable of earning any Thing ; so that their Time might be fully taken up, in learning what would be beneficial to them afterwards, or in practising what would produce certain Profit to the Kingdom, lessen the Charge of the Foundation, and, to crown the Whole, not bring any one *British* Subject to Poverty or Distress.

Thus might CHARITY, HUMANITY, PATRIOTISM, and OECONOMY, be made to go Hand-in-Hand ; and the Ways to form this most pleasing quadruple Alliance are so obviously proper and so easily practicable, that one can scarcely help wondering how so much Good can be obtained by such simple Means ; but unerring Experience of every Kind shews, that Things which are the plainest in their Nature or the simplest in their Construction, are of the greatest Use to Society, and do best promote the Happiness of Mankind.

The *Implements* for Spinning and Winding of *Linen Yarn* may, not only be purchased at a small Expence, but be easily repaired or put in order, and will wear a long Time.

The *Materials* may be always had in great or small Quantities, and when so far wrought as is here proposed, they cannot remain unfold for Want of a Market.

The *Skill* required to thus work up such Materials is so small, that every poor Woman or Girl who is not an Idiot may be employed in working them.

And *knowing how to Spin* is more useful to poor Women in general than any Thing they can know ; for when they cannot be better Employed, it will enable them to save the greater Part of the Expence of providing Cloathing for themselves, their Husbands, and Children ; and therefore should be made Choice of preferably to any other Employment whatever.

For as that Sort of Work will much facilitate the Maintenance of poor Families, it may probably increase the Number of common People in this Nation as well as moderate the Prices of their Labour, which are national Objects and should be always kept in View, especially upon such Occasions as this : because Charitable Foundations afford the only Means, in this Country, of giving a national Bias to the Employment of People who are to live by their Industry ; for *Manufacturers, Labourers, &c.* who do not

stand in Need of Charity, are at Liberty to bring up their Children to such Trades or Employments as they chuse.

Work that may be easily learned may be as easily taught, and therefore very small Salaries would be sufficient for the Mistresses who shall be employed to teach exposed or deserted Women and Girls to spin and wind *Linen Yarn*; so that the Foundation need not be put to much Charge for Mistresses to instruct the Girls in *Spinning*, *Plain Sewing*, and *Reading*, as there are undoubtedly great Numbers of honest and well-disposed Women who are capable of doing all the Three.

And I am persuaded that many deserving Women would accept of such Employments for *Five Pounds a Year* more than the Wages of a House-Maid, and set the Girls good Examples of Industry and Sobriety, both of which are absolutely requisite to make Instruction effectual; and it must necessarily be more so under One Mistress than under Three, for if any of the Girls should then be neglected, the Blame could not be shifted from one Mistress to another.

By this Means an Emulation might be raised among those Women who had the Instruction of the Girls, as each Mistress would then be striving to make her Girls more industrious, more ready at their Book, and more orderly in their Behaviour, than the other Girls, which would be productive of much Good: And if annual Rewards of 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 Pounds were appointed to be given to those Five Mistresses whose Girls made the greatest Progress, upon the Whole, it would be Money well laid out; nor should the Girls in the winning Classes be over looked, for 20, 16, 12, 8 and 4 Shillings properly distributed, would have a good Effect upon them.

Concerning the Establishment of New Manufacturies.

THE setting up of New Manufacturies may very probably be attended with much greater Expences than the carrying on a Manufactory of *Linen Yarn*; as professed Mistresses or Masters of the former will hardly be prevailed upon to come into this Kingdom, or, if they are here, to settle in a Preservatory or Reformatory, without considerable Salaries: but then the Profits arising from such Manufacturies would probably be as considerable, after they were well established, so that the first Charge thereof might in Time be repaid with Interest; or if it should not be repaid, yet must the Establishing of New Manufacturies be productive of real Advantage to the Nation, if proper ones are chosen, otherwise they may do more Harm than Good.

For several New Manufacturies may be named which it is not consistent with the true and general Interest of these Kingdoms to have set on Foot in *England*; because the Maxim of *Live and let Live* is to be regarded between Nations, in their Commercial Intercourse, as well as between Merchants

Merchants and Tradesmen, in their private Dealings: And as this most excellent Principle of long-sighted Policy, as well as Equity, doth guide with happy Effect the great Council of this Nation, in the forming of our Commercial Laws and Regulations which concern other Nations, the like Success, in a lesser Degree, will undoubtedly attend a Pursuit of similar Measures upon the present Occasion.

In order to which, it will be necessary to first inquire, What Nations do supply the People of *Great Britain* with considerable Quantities of such Sorts of Manufactures as are or may be wrought by Women or Girls, and conveniently made within such Preservatories, &c. as are intended to be established? — For when that Matter is determined, the Difference between our Commercial and Political Connections, with each of those Nations respectively, will lead to such New Manufacturies as may be set up and carried on in *England* without doing any Prejudice to our *Woollen* or other *Manufacturies*, or to any beneficial Branch of our *Foreign Trade*.

Most of the Foreign wrought curious Manufactures imported into this Kingdom for Home-Consumption, are made in one or other of the Four after-named Countries: ITALY, HOLLAND, EAST-INDIA, FRANCE: and as there is a very great Difference between the States of our Commerce and Political Connections with those several Countries, there will not be much Difficulty in determining from which of them New Manufacturies should be gained, or others of like Kinds established, and may be accordingly established with Advantage to *Great Britain*.

The *Italians* are a People with whom this Nation hath long carried on an extensive and reciprocally beneficial Trade, which is a very strong Reason for not setting up any Branch of New Manufactory here that would be prejudicial to their Interests, as in the End it might prove so to our own; because they purchase great Quantities of *BRITISH Woollen Manufactures*, *Tin*, *Lead*, salted *Fish*, &c. for which they make Returns in Commodities of their own Growth; so that if we buy less of them, they may probably buy less of us, as they are not possessed of *Gold* or *Silver* Mines, and therefore cannot carry on a losing Trade with other Nations.

The People of *Holland* have generally been reckoned our good Friends, and it is certain that they not only consume great Quantities of the Staple Commodities and Manufactures of this Kingdom, but do much promote our Trade, by facilitating the Sale of *British* Commodities in several Parts of *Germany*, &c. and though, on the other Hand, great Quantities of fine *Linens*, *Sail-Cloth*, *Whale-Fins* and *Oil*, *Madder*, *Small Wares*, and *Toys* of various Kinds, are imported from *Holland* into *Great Britain*, yet is the *British* Consumption thereof much decreased of late Years, by the happy Increase of our own Manufacturies, &c.

So that it would be well if our exposed or deserted Women and Girls could be employed in making curious Manufactures which will not interfere with the Manufacturies of *Holland*, as the Trade thereof hath been much affected, to our Advantage, and is likely to be more so, by the several Means before mentioned; for it is undoubtedly true that our Trade with *Holland* is very beneficial to this Nation, though it is scarcely possible to know the exact State thereof; and it is very certain that great Quantities of *small Manufactures* and *Toys* are brought here from Nations with which we carry on a very different Sort of Trade, to our great Loss.

East-India hath long been a Sepulchre to much *British Wealth*, for though it doth provide us with Means to gain other Wealth from several Countries to which we trade, yet is *Great Britain* a Loser upon the Whole; and as to Political Connections between Nations which Nature hath placed so far asunder, they cannot be of much Service to either, though our *East-India Company* may find their Account in having them: But as the Trade carried on by that Company is a losing and in other Respects pernicious Trade to this Kingdom, every Thing which can be done to make it less so, ought certainly to be undertaken for the common Good; and exposed or deserted Women and Girls may be made serviceable in this Respect, by employing them to manufacture some such Sorts of *East-India Toys* as can be conveniently wrought in the intended Preservatories, &c.

The *French* have, for near a Century past, supplied this Nation with great Quantities of *trifling Toys* and *Trinkets*, for which vast Sums of Money have been carried out of *England*, without producing any Return of Advantage; for they prevent, by Prohibitions, high Duties, and strict Searches, the Consumption of all such *English* Commodities in *France* as are not absolutely wanted there, but similar Measures have not hitherto fully produced like Effects here.

So that any Branch of *French* Manufactory, which is not already well established in *England*, may be very safely set up, without Injury to our *Manufacturies* or *Foreign Trade*, or the least Danger of ever losing a *faithful and good Ally*; and if all the Ladies of this Kingdom would be pleased to wear Ornaments of our own Manufacture, much Money will be thereby saved to this Nation, and suitable Employment found for the most ingenious of their distressed Countrywomen.

What a Pity it is, that *ENGLISH LADIES* should at any Time give a Preference to *Silks, Ribbands, Laces, or Toys*, which are wrought by a People whom Peace cannot make Friends nor Treaties faithful: Or, submit to receive *FASHIONS* from a Nation to which *ENGLISHMEN* have more than once given *LAWS*.

P A R T II.

CONCERNING the Raising of A REVENUE

In Aid of

VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Toward the ESTABLISHMENT of

CHARITY-HOUSES.

AS there seems to be a general Intention of supporting such Charitable Establishments by voluntary Subscriptions, what I have to offer on this Head may possibly be thought unnecessary, and I hope it will prove so in Fact; but at the same Time there is a Possibility, that sufficient Sums of Money may not be hereafter subscribed to defray the whole Charge of properly Relieving all exposed or deserted Women and Girls, and of Reclaiming Penitent Prostitutes.

For the Charges of *House-Rent,*

House-Furniture,

Coals, Candles, and Soap,

Cloathing for such Women and Girls as shall be received in a wretched Condition, as well as constant

Cloathing for many of the Girls,

Implements for Manufacturies,

Salaries for Mistresses to instruct the Women and Girls, and for other necessary Officers,

Stipends for Chaplains and Surgeons, to perform Divine Service and to attend Sick Women, Penitent Prostitutes, &c.

will all together amount to a considerable Sum of Money, and the Maintenance of diseased or sickly Women, as well as of little Girls, must

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necessarily

necessarily make a considerable Addition to those Charges, the Whole of which will fall heavy upon voluntary Subscriptions; for it is not likely, that any Part of the Money applied to those Heads of Expence is meant to be, or can be, repaid by the Labour of such Women and grown-up Girls as shall be in Health and constant Employment in the Preservatories, &c.

And it is improbable that the Women and Girls who shall be Employed in *Spinning of Linen Yarn* will thereby earn more than the Charge of their Meat and Drink; nor doth it seem proper to apply what any of them shall get, over and above the Expence of their Diet, toward reimbursing other Charges of the Foundation; because that would be treating as mere Paupers a Number of Women and Girls who have a Spirit above owing their Maintenance to any Thing but their own honest Industry, only they have the Misfortune to want Employment, and would near as soon become Prostitutes, as be reproached with *their having been maintained in a Work-House*.

Now though it may be justly said, that their Pride ought not to be encouraged, yet would the breaking of this commendable Spirit be prejudicial to public as well as private Good; because the strongest Motive to Industry and Perseverance in a reputable Way of Life would be thereby wholly destroyed or weakened: for if either Men or Women of the lower Classes can be easy in their Minds while leading an idle Life at other People's Expence, they will rather think how they may continue to live so, than how to get their Bread by honest Industry; and when this comes to be the Case, they are of little Worth to Society, for if their Benefactors dismiss them, and they cannot find others, it is most likely that they will take to some bad Courses, if they do not commence Thieves or Prostitutes.

For the Prevention of which Evils, as well as for the Encouragement of Industry, I do humbly propose, that every Woman or grown-up Girl who had usually maintained herself by honest Industry and was in Health, should be allowed *One Penny a Day for her Work* in the Preservatory, besides her *Meat, Drink, Washing, and Lodging*; but that the Condition of her being allowed that Penny should be, her having done a good Day's Work, of which the Mistress or some other Officer should determine; for such Wages should not be allowed to any Woman or Girl till she could well perform the Spinning or other Work in which it should be thought proper to employ her.

And if the chief Employment of such Women and Girls was to be *Spinning of Linen Yarn*, the Sameness of their Work could hardly fail of creating an Emulation among them; because the Quantity and Quality of the Yarn spun by each, would certainly discover who were most industrious, and ingenious or attentive to the Goodness of their Work.

So that there would, not only be more Work done for the Benefit of the Foundation, but by this Means the Governors thereof would be enabled to know the different Pretensions of the Women and Girls, from their Instructors or Inspectors, which might be turned to good Account, by recommending to the best Places such as had behaved best in the Preservatory: And as Women and Girls, who had usually maintained themselves by Service or by some other honest Employment, could not have any reasonable Objection against coming into a Preservatory upon such Terms, when out of Place, they might be thereby exempted from the hard Necessity of *pawning their better Cloaths to buy Bread.*

The doing of which hath undoubtedly brought many well-disposed Women to Prostitution or to other evil Courses, for neat Cloathing is almost as necessary to their getting into Places again as the having of good Characters from their last Mistresses, because People do generally judge of the Mind by the Body's Garb; so that it would certainly be noble Benevolence to prevent well-disposed Women from being deprived by Necessity in a few Months of *the little Money and the neat Cloathing* which they have probably been several Years in earning, as it would secure them from the griping Usurer who soon drives them to evil Courses of Life.

From this View of the Charges which must necessarily be incurred to properly support the intended Charitable Foundation, it is evident that the Amount thereof would be considerable, and probably too great to be wholly supported by voluntary Contributions, without Prejudice to other Charitable Foundations: so that it would be very well if some certain and considerable Revenue could be equitably and easily Raised in aid of the Money that shall be subscribed; and as I have proposed an Increase of Expence much beyond what seems to be at present intended, I would willingly point out an Increase of Revenue also.

The doing of which seems to me the more necessary, as I cannot help thinking that this great Charge, which a Number of most noble and truly worthy Personages and Persons do intend to burthen themselves with, ought to be equally borne by all the opulent and the substantial Inhabitants of this great Metropolis; for, equitably speaking, the exposed or deserted Women and Girls, as well as the common Prostitutes, whom it is intended to Relieve and Reclaim, are Part of the Poor of *London, Westminster, and Southwark*, considered collectively as one great City without regarding the legal Subdivisions of them into Parishes.

And however perfect the Laws relating to the Poor of this Kingdom may be in general, they certainly are not perfectly well adapted to *London* in particular; for the Number of People who come here for Employment,

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out of different Parts of these Kingdoms, is computed by an ingenious Writer to be *Eight Thousand* yearly; and as in so large and constant a Supply of Country People there must unavoidably be a Number of Men and Women who cannot get speedy Employment or are seduced by artful Practices into evil Courses of Life, there certainly ought to be some better Provision made, than that of sending them back to the Parishes from whence they came.

For a Pass is in Fact, not only a Licence to beg, but an authoritative Certificate that the Bearer thereof is an Object of Charity; and when both Law and Justice have thus given a Sanction to begging, it is very natural for a poor Man or Woman to take up the Trade of a Strolling Beggar, who would not otherwise have done it: And I am persuaded that there are Thousands of Men or Women in this Kingdom who would not have been common Beggars or Pilferers, if they had not had Passes to protect them at their first setting out; nor is that Method of Relief in London proper for unemployed People who come out of the Country, because their not succeeding here, becomes a Sort of Reproach to them if they return to their native Places, and therefore they generally avoid going Home.

On this Account, *London* is the best Place in the Kingdom to Recruit the Land-Forces with Countrymen; for if they cannot get such Employment as they expected or chuse to follow, many of them will not go Home again to be laughed at by their Acquaintances, but enlist for Soldiers, go to the Plantations, &c. if they are well inclined; otherwise, they probably commence Thieves or Pick-pockets: and as the Strength and Opulence of this City are supported by these constant Supplies of young and robust Country People, there really ought to be better Care taken here of such of them as cannot get speedy Employment; especially of the Women and Girls, as their Sex makes them less capable of getting their Living, and more liable to be ruined.

For most of the unfortunate Part of those Country People owe the Loss of their Health, Strength, or Honesty, to the Want of proper Provision being made for them here; so that the hunting of such poor Creatures out of one Parish into another, and the passing of them from County to County, are rather Inhumanity than good Policy: because they are then despoiled of their natural Riches, without which they cannot get their Bread at Home; and there is certainly as much Equity in obliging the Inhabitants of this City to make some Reparation for such Despoiling, as in obliging the Inhabitants of every Hundred wherein a Robbery is committed to make good the Loss sustained.

If *London* was the poorest City in this Kingdom, there would then be some Plea for removing to their several Parishes, where they were legally intitled to Relief, all such poor People as had only an equitable Claim to Relief here; but for the richest City in this or any other Nation to do so, is much

much beneath the Dignity she should maintain: nor is there any Sort of Saving made by this seeming sharp-sighted Policy, for those poor People *set their Wits to work that they may eat*; and I am persuaded that if it was possible to know the Value of what they every Year *beg, pilfer, or steal*, in this Metropolis, it would amount to more than, with proper Management, would decently maintain them all; without reckoning the great Sums which are paid by Parish-Officers to relieve such People *till they are tired of travelling and chuse to come back to London*.

But this pecuniary Consideration is a mere Trifle in comparison of the Loss of some worthy Persons Lives, the Maiming of others, and the frequent Executions of Criminals, all which proceed from the same Cause. — So strongly hath Infinite Wisdom and Goodness connected the Welfare of Individuals, that neglecting of the Poor produceth a Scourge for the Rich. — And as the Inhabitants of *London, Westminster, and Southwark*, are bound in Equity, Humanity, and Gratitude, to provide the necessary Means for putting a Stop to such Reproaches to Government and Interruptions of domestic Happiness, I hope they will be pleased to seriously consider these Matters, and become a Law unto themselves in this Respect.

I do therefore humbly propose, that a general Contribution be made by all the wealthy and the substantial Housekeepers in *London, Westminster, or Southwark*, or in any Parish that is within One Mile of the Suburbs thereof, in aid of the voluntary Subscriptions to the intended Establishments *for Relieving exposed or deserted Women and Girls, and for Reclaiming Penitent Prostitutes*: — Each Housekeeper's Quota to be determined by an equal Pound-Rate upon all their Dwelling-Houses according to the Rents thereof, as they now stand assessed in the Books of *Poors-Rates* for each Parish respectively; and the Money to be paid half-yearly by the Overseers of the Poor of those several Parishes to the Treasurers who shall be appointed for these Foundations.

I hope that the Equitableness of applying for such a general Contribution is sufficiently made appear by the several Matters before mentioned; and as to the Facility of assessing, collecting, and paying the same, without much Trouble or any Expence, that is evident from the Words in which I have expressed the Proposal; for supposing, for Example, that a Rate of *One Penny in the Pound* was to be raised toward supporting these Charities, the *Poors-Rate* of each Parish might then be made a Penny in the Pound more than was wanted to maintain the proper Poor thereof, and when all the Money was collected, the Penny in the Pound might be easily computed by the total Sum raised.

Now I am of Opinion, that *an annual Rate of One Penny in the Pound on the Rents of the aforesaid Houses in London, Westminster, Southwark, &c.* together with moderate Assistance by *voluntary Subscriptions*, would not only be sufficient to pay all the Charges of the proposed extensive Foundations for Relieving *exposed or deserted Women and Girls*, and for Reclaiming *Penitent Prostitutes*, in this Metropolis, but would likewise be sufficient to pay the Charges of such other Foundations for Relieving *exposed or deserted Men and Boys*, and for assisting *working Men and Boys* when out of Place.

If this should really be the Case, the greatest Part of the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants of *London, Westminster, and Southwark* would, not only save Money by paying such a Pound-Rate, but they would be exempted from many Apprehensions of *having their Houses robbed or Pockets picked by pretended Beggars*: for these are Matters of much greater Consequence than *saving a few Pence or Shillings in the Year*; and so is the removing from public View all such Beggars as are made frightful by *Wounds, Bruises, or natural Imperfections*, for there is no knowing how many Children have been or may be made Cripples by their Mothers looking at such frightful Objects.

The carrying of such a Plan into Execution would put an End to all Pretensions for begging in the Streets of this Metropolis, and that is the only effectual and humane Way to clear the Streets of Beggars; *for when there cannot be any Pretence for asking Charity there cannot be any Reason for giving Alms*, but this is very far from being the Case at present; for there are many Circumstances wherein poor People cannot obtain proper Relief, so that they may beg without either Shame or Blame, excepting to this opulent City; and as cunning Beggars know this very well, they are seldom without such Answers to Inquiries into the Causes of their Poverty as excite Compassion and procure them more than a bare Maintenance.

One is a decayed Housekeeper.

Another is a Farmer ruined by Flood or Fire.

A Third hath had a broken Limb and is too weak to get his Living.

A Fourth belongs to *New England, &c.* and cannot pay for his Passage Home.

A Fifth hath many Sores.

A Sixth cannot get Employment nor tell where her Place of Settlement is.

The Seventh hath a Husband who is gone to Sea or enlisted for a Soldier.

The Eighth hath a sick Husband at Home and his Place of Settlement is two or three Hundred Miles from *London*.

The Ninth hath a Cancer in her Breast.

The Tenth is a Widow left with several little Children, &c.

One or other of these Circumstances of Distress are generally the pretended Cases of cunning Beggars; and such of them as cannot speak, look, or act Distress, do generally supply their Want of pathetic Elocution, sorrowful Countenance, and Pity-moving Gesture, by the silent Eloquence of some hapless Infant, whom they cruelly half-starve to heighten Compassion. —

How much Money such a Pound-Rate would raise, I cannot pretend to say, but a tolerable Judgment may nevertheless be formed of this Matter by the Number of Houses in *London*, &c. for which *Window* or *House-Tax* is paid; as it may reasonably be supposed that the Inhabitants of those Houses do pay toward maintaining the Poor of their Parishes, and therefore should contribute proportionably to this general Provision for other Poor: — against the doing of which, there cannot be any equitable Objection, as each Family would have a Share in the general Good thereby produced, and few Persons pay so much as they would be benefited in one Way or other; but if, notwithstanding all these weighty Considerations, many Persons should refuse to contribute their Quotas toward carrying on this good Work, there cannot be any Doubt of the Legislature *aiding with Law*, What is, not only supported by *Equity, Humanity and Charity*, but would much promote the *public Weal* and *private Happiness* of these Kingdoms.

The Houses, in *London, Westminster, Southwark*, or the Suburbs thereof, for which *Window* or *House-Tax* is paid, are about *Sixty Thousand* in Number, exclusive of uninhabited Houses and of many Thousands of meaner Houses which are inhabited by the lower Classes of Manufacturers, &c. and for those Reasons very justly exempted from this Tax: But I will make my Computation upon only *Fifty Thousand Houses*, as I would not willingly create an Expectation of more Money than may be raised; and I think that if the Rents of those Houses are rated at *Forty Pounds a Year* each, upon an Average, it will be rather under than over their real Rents or rental Values.

At these two Estimations, an *Annual Pound-Rate of One Penny in the Pound*, on the Rents or rental Values of those Houses, would produce *Two Millions* of Pence, which when reduced into Pounds, &c. amount to *Eight Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-three Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence* a Year; so that a certain yearly Revenue of *EIGHT THOUSAND POUNDS* might be equitably and easily Raised in aid of voluntary Subscriptions to the proposed charitable and long-wanted Establishments; of which Sum, one Half might be applied for Relieving distressed, &c. *Women and Girls*, and the other Half be appropriated to Relieve distressed *Men and Boys*.

The War doth indeed make such an Establishment for Men and Boys much less necessary than it will be in Time of Peace, and it is made still less so, by that excellent and well-judged Charity of the Marine Society; but
then

then it is to be considered, that this Charity is only a present Expedient, which will end with the War: so that future Provision for distressed *Men* and *Boys*, as well as present and future Provision for distressed, &c. *Women* and *Girls*, should be equally attended to; for there is a most evident Want of Two such Charitable Foundations to connect, in Use, the many excellent Ones already established in this Metropolis, and to form a complete System of Charities.

When Two such Foundations are established there will be suitable Relief from, or proper Assistance in, every calamitous or distressed Circumstance incident to Human Life, for which Provision can be made by public Charity.

There is a General and Public Hospital for the Reception, Maintenance, and Education of all *exposed and deserted Infants*.

There are many Hospitals, as well Public as Parochial, for the Maintenance and Education of *poor Children* who are legally intitled to the Benefit thereof, or have Friends to get them admitted.

There is an Hospital for poor People while they have the *Small Pox*.

_____ for poor married Women during the Time of their *Lying-in*.

_____ for *Lunatics*.

_____ for Cure of the *foul Disease*.

There are several Hospitals for the Maintenance of old or maimed *Seamen* and *Soldiers*.

_____ for the Maintenance of decayed *Merchants* and *Tradesmen* and for poor *old Men* and *Women*.

_____ for the Cure of *broken Limbs*, *Bruises*, *stubborn Diseases*, &c.

But there is a Want of Two other Hospitals to cure *the Disease of Hunger* in exposed or deserted *Men*, *Women*, *Boys*, and *Girls*, when it is brought upon them by Misfortunes or Accidents and not by any Crime of theirs; for that is the radical and effectual Way to cure the ravaging Diseases of *Theft* and *common Prostitution*: and as I have pointed out equitable, ample and easily attainable Means to aid the voluntary Subscriptions already begun for those good Purposes, as well as mentioned the several Matters which seem, in my humble Opinion, to be fundamentally necessary for the Attainment of those great Ends, I shall now proceed upon the Superstructure.

P A R T III.

CONCERNING the immediate ESTABLISHMENT
Of Temporary

CHARITY-HOUSES.

T O

RECEIVE and EMPLOY or EDUCATE

EXPOSED or DESERTED

W O M E N and G I R L S;

Until an Increase of *Subscription-Money, Donations, Legacies, or a certain Revenue*, shall enable the Governors of such Charity-Houses to have more proper Houses, &c. purposely built for the Reception of all such Women and Girls, and to defray the Charges of Relieving and Educating them, &c.

AS the Business now to be considered is of a mixed Nature, and will probably be governed partly by Gentlemen and partly by Ladies, I shall first make a Distribution of the same into such principal Branches as seem, in my humble Opinion, to be most proper for the Government and Direction of each: because some Branches of this Business will be similar to those which Ladies superintend in their own Families, and therefore should properly be under their Direction; but then there are other Branches which will as properly come under the Cognizance of Gentlemen, and should for that Reason be under their Government.

The appointing of *Housekeepers* to manage Household Affairs, of *Mistresses* to instruct the exposed or deserted Women and Girls in Spinning, Sewing, Reading, &c. and the ordering of all *Cloathing* which shall be provided for those Women and Girls at the Expence of this Foundation, will probably be agreeable to Ladies: but they certainly should not be troubled with giving Orders for all Sorts of necessary *Provisions* and *House* or *Kitchen Furniture*, or with *Appointments to Offices* which are to be held by *Gentlemen* or other *Men*; nor should they be embarrassed with any Thing that relates to *Manufacturies*, or with the *auditing of Accounts*.

I do therefore humbly propose, That the Business of the intended Foundation be divided between the Governors and the Governesses thereof, in the following Manner.

The Governors Department.

They should appoint to and remove from all *Offices* which are to be held by *Gentlemen* or other *Men*.

— make Choice of and contract for all such *Houses* or other Buildings as shall be wanted.

— direct in what Manner those Houses or other Buildings are to be built or altered, repaired, fitted up, and furnished, either for Habitation, proper Offices, or Manufactory.

— give Orders for all necessary *Viſuals*; and settle a weekly *Bill of Fare* for Breakfast, Dinner, and Supper, specifying the Meal-Hours in Summer and in Winter.

— direct the setting up or Discontinuance of such Branches of *Manufactory* as the exposed or deserted Women and Girls should or should not be employed in; and fix the Hours of their going to Work in the Morning and of their leaving off Work at Night, which should be somewhat varied according to the Seasons of the Year.

— make all Contracts for *Materials* to carry on Manufacturies, and regulate the Manner of selling all *Manufatures* wrought for Sale by the exposed or deserted Women and Girls.

— audit all *Accounts* of Money Received or Disbursed for the Use of the Foundation, and likewise the Accounts which related to Manufacturies, Cloathing, Furniture, &c. Abstracts of all which Accounts should be annually laid before the Governesses for their Information and greater Satisfaction.

The Governesses Department.

They should appoint to and remove from all *Offices* which are to be held by *Gentlewomen* or other *Women*.

_____ chuse the several Species of Woollen and Linen, &c. *Cloathing* to be provided for the Women and Girls, all which should be of *British* or *Irish* Manufacture.

_____ fix the *Prices* to be paid for each Species of *Cloathing*, and determine what *Colours* the Gowns, &c. should be of.

_____ give Orders for *making* each Sort of *Cloathing* and direct who should make it.

_____ regulate how often the Girls are to have new *Cloathing* of each Sort.

_____ give provisional Orders for new *cloathing* such Women and Girls as shall be wretchedly clad when they are admitted upon the Foundation.

_____ reward particular good Behaviour and reprimand such as was improper, in any of the Women or Girls, as their Prudence and good Sense shall direct: but if any of the Women or Girls shall behave outrageously or very ill in some other respect, the Housekeeper, or another Officer in her Behalf, should acquaint the Governors with such ill Behaviour, without taking any Notice of it to the Governesses.

This seems to me to be a natural Distribution of the Business of this intended Foundation, for the Governesses might be thereby exempted from the *troublesome Part*, effectually secured from every Thing *that is inconsistent with Delicacy*, and yet be made acquainted with the *Progress and State of the Charity in all Respects*: so that for any Thing which at present occurs to me, this Business, though of a mixed Nature, may be conducted with as much Regularity, good Order, and Harmony, as appear in a well-regulated private Family; for neither the Governors nor the Governesses are hereby proposed to superintend more than they generally inspect into at Home.

Such of the other constitutional Parts of this Business as I have not yet treated of will rise to Consideration in the Course of mentioning those several Measures which, in my humble Opinion, are necessary to be taken upon the present Occasion, and their Propriety or Impropriety will be more easily seen there; for which Reasons I shall now proceed to offer what I humbly apprehend is fitting to be done for the immediate Establishment of temporary
Charity-

Charity-Houses ; and I shall rather regard Order of Time than Order of Place, for though the Latter may be best in Theory, yet the Former is of most Use in Practice, and therefore the most proper here.

The First General Meeting of the Governors, &c.

A General Meeting should be publicly desired of the Nobility, Gentry, &c. who have already subscribed *Ten Pounds* or more toward the intended Foundation ; and when they or the greater Part of them were accordingly met, the Bankers in whose Hands any *Subscription-Money* was lodged should give Lists of the several Subscribers Names and the Sums by them subscribed ; which Lists should be first read, and then laid upon the Table. — This being done, the following Matters should be taken into Consideration and determined upon.

First. — *What Donation or annual Subscription should intitle any Personage or Person to be a Governor or Governess of the said Foundation ?* — Which Matter should be determined by a Majority of the Personages and Persons, as well Ladies as Gentlemen, who were then present. — This being done, the Number of Governors and Governesses should be counted by the Bankers Lists, and when added together, the Total Number of each be declared.

Second. — *What Number of Governors and What Number of Governesses should constitute Committees to give necessary Orders and Directions concerning Matters of lesser Consequence in their respective Departments ?* This to be determined in the Manner before mentioned, and the Governors to then withdraw into another Room.

Third. — The Governors should then Elect a *President* and an *honorary Secretary* out of their own Number ; either by balloting or otherwise, as they thought most proper.

Fourth. — The Governesses should likewise Elect a *President* and an *honorary Secretary* out of their Number ; either by balloting or otherwise, as they thought most proper.

Fifth. — The Governesses should also appoint a *Committee* to consider of the several Matters within their Department, before the Second General Meeting, and then adjourn.

Sixth. — The Governors should next chuse a *Treasurer* out of their own Number, by ballot, and the Employment be declared honorary.

Seventh.

Seventh.— They should also chuse a *Superintendent of Manufacturies* out of their own Number, in like Manner, and the Employment be declared honorary; but all those Honorary Officers should have Deputies, or proper Assistants, and be repaid their necessary Expences in discharging the Trusts reposed in them.

Eighth.— The Governors should likewise appoint a *Committee* to consider of the several Matters within their Department, before the Second General Meeting, and particularly in relation to Houses proper for the intended Purposes.

Ninth.— And lastly, they should desire their *Treasurer* and their *Superintendent of Manufacturies* to make Inquiry for *Three uninhabited Houses*, proper to Receive and Employ or Educate exposed or deserted Women and Girls; which Houses should have convenient Offices, walled Gardens or Openings behind them, and be situated as followeth:

- 1 — In or near the Eastern Suburb of *London*.
- 1 — In or near the Western Suburb of *Westminster*.
- 1 — In or near the Centre between the other Two.

The Want of such Houses to be advertised in all the *London News-Papers*, that the most convenient or cheapest Houses which could be had for these Purposes might be known of; and the Owners or Persons impowered to Lease or Lett any such Houses be desired to send Descriptions, &c. of them to the said Treasurer or Superintendent of Manufacturies.

Which Officers, together with an Architect or Builder of approved Skill and Integrity, should view the several Houses offered to be so Leased or Lett; and draw up States of the necessary Particulars relating to those Two Houses in each Neighbourhood which, in their Judgment, seemed the most proper of all that were offered and situated as before mentioned.

Those States, together with the several Offers of other Houses, to be all laid before the Committee of Governors to be appointed as aforesaid, that they might likewise go and view the said Houses; which being done, that Committee should meet again, and draw up a Report of those Three Houses which appeared, upon the Whole, to be most proper; and as soon as these several Matters were performed, a Second General Meeting should be publicly desired.



The Second General Meeting of the Governors, &c.

When the GOVERNORS or the greater Part of them were met pursuant to public Notice given, they should

First. — Take into Consideration what their Committee had Reported concerning proper Houses for the intended Purposes, and when they had *fixed upon the Three most proper Houses*, they should . . .

Second. — Proceed to *Elect*, by ballot, *the following Officers*, and to fix their Stipends or Salaries, *viz.*

A Chaplain, A Surgeon, and A House-Steward.

Third. — *A Committee for Houses* should then be appointed, to Rent or Lease the Houses, to determine what Alterations or Repairs should be made in them, to contract for performing the same, to superintend the doing thereof as Occasion might require, and to have the House-Steward under their Direction, till those several Matters were performed, at which Time a Third General Meeting should be publicly desired.

Fourth. — *A Committee for Manufacturies* should likewise be appointed, to inquire — What Sorts of Linen Yarn are most proper to be Spun by exposed or deserted Women and Girls. — Where or of Whom, the Materials for such Yarn may be bought to most Advantage. — And, What Wheels or other Implements are most proper for such Spinning, &c.

Of all which Matters a Report should be drawn up to be laid before the Governors at their Third General Meeting; and the Superintendant of Manufacturies act as Secretary to the said Committee.

When the GOVERNESSES or the greater Part of them were met pursuant to public Notice given, they should

First. — *Elect*, by ballot, *the following Officers*, and fix their Salaries or Wages, *viz.*

Three Housekeepers, and Six Mistresses
to teach Spinning, Sewing, and Reading.

Second. — The Governesses should then appoint *a Committee for Cloathing*, to take into Consideration, — What Sorts of Woollen Stuff, Linen Cloth, &c. would be most proper for exposed or deserted Women and Girls to be cloathed in. — And how often the Girls should have new Cloathing of each Species, &c.

Of all which Matters a Report should be drawn up, before the Third General Meeting, and the Housekeepers be under the Direction of the said Committee, till those several Matters were performed.

The Third General Meeting of the Governors, &c.

When the GOVERNORS or the greater Part of them were met at the Time appointed, they should proceed upon the following Business :

First. — They should take into Consideration the several Things done by the Committee for Houses, or by their Orders, the Whole of which, it may be supposed, would meet with Approbation.

Second. — They should consider of the Report made by their Committee for Manufacturies, whose Propositions, it may be taken for granted, would be approved of.

Third. — The Committee for Houses should then be desired to give Orders for *furnishing the Three Houses*, so that each might be fit for Receiving, Employing or Educating, and Maintaining, Fifty exposed or deserted Women and Girls, making in all, One Hundred and Fifty.

Fourth. — The Committee for Manufacturies should then be desired to give Orders for *providing a sufficient Quantity of the proper Sort of Hemp or Flax*; and for *the making of One Hundred and Fifty Wheels* proper to Spin the same, &c.

As also, to make Inquiry for *Three Accountants or Clerks* to keep the Accounts relating to Manufacturies, Provisions, Cloathing, Furniture, &c. and the Registers of all Persons admitted upon the Foundation, expressing their Names, Places of Birth, Ages, Employments, the Places they lately lived in, and the Places they are to go to when discharged, &c. likewise, to consider of *proper Forms for keeping the said Accounts and Registers*, in regular, clear, and concise Methods.

Fifth. — To appoint a Committee for Provisions, Coals, Candles, &c. who should consider of a proper weekly Bill of Fare, for Breakfast, Dinner, and Supper, and of the most proper Methods and Persons for furnishing the several Sorts of Provisions, &c. for the Women and Girls in each of the Three Houses; of all which Matters a Report should be drawn up and laid before the Governors at their Fourth General Meeting, which should be as soon as the several Matters before named could be completed.

When

When the GOVERNESSES or the greater Part of them were met at the Time appointed, they should proceed upon the following Business :

First. — They should take into Consideration the Report of their Committee for Cloathing, the Whole of which, it may be supposed, would meet with Approbation.

Second. — The said Committee should then be desired to give Orders for *providing sufficient Quantities of Woollen Stuffs and Linen Cloth to cloathe One Hundred and Fifty Women and Girls*; and for making up Gowns, &c. for Seventy-five Women and Girls, in such Proportions and of such Sizes as the Committee should approve of.

But that the Remainder of the Stuff and Cloth should not be made up till it was seen whether the same was most likely to be wanted for Women, or for great or little Girls; nor should many Shoes or Stockings be provided before hand.—The said Committee should likewise give Orders for *providing a sufficient Quantity of Table, &c. Linen*, and for making of it up.

The Fourth General Meeting of the Governors, &c.

At this General Meeting, the State of all the before named Matters may be as followeth :

First. — The *Three Houses*, properly altered, repaired, fitted up, and furnished, so as to receive One Hundred and Fifty exposed or deserted Women and Girls.

Second. — *Cloathing* for that Number of such Women and Girls, Part made up, and the Remainder in Readiness to be made up, as Occasion shall require.

Third. — *Employment* for that Number of such Women and Girls, *Materials* for them to work upon, and proper *Implements* to work with.

Fourth. — *Mistresses* to instruct those Women and Girls, and *Housekeepers* (who should each be allowed to have and chuse a Woman-Servant) to see that they are provided with necessary Food and Cloathing.

Fifth. — *A Bill of Fare* settled, and proper Methods and Persons agreed upon, by a Committee, for furnishing *Provisions, Coals, &c.* all which would probably be approved of.

Sixth. — *A Chaplain* appointed to perform Divine Service, and to administer Comfort to the Uneasy in Mind. — *A Surgeon* appointed to take Care of those diseased or sick Women or Girls whom it was not absolutely necessary to remove to an Infirmary; and to acquaint the Governors when it was requisite to have any Woman or Girl so removed, that they might get her admitted into some proper Hospital,

This

This seems to me to be the best present Method of providing for such exposed or deserted Women and Girls, during the Times of their Sickness, as shall be so ill that they ought to be removed from among healthy People; and as there are happily many such Hospitals in this Metropolis, I think that the Expence of an Infirmary to the proposed Foundation might be very well saved, at least for the present.

Seventh.—There would be *Three Accountants or Clerks* proposed for keeping all Accounts, &c. as before named, and it is likely that they would be approved of upon the Committee's Recommendation. —The *Forms of those Accounts, &c.* would be likewise settled by that Committee, and proper Account, &c. Books might soon be made, under the Direction of a *Business Secretary*.

Which Officer might then be appointed or proposed, and should be a Person conversant with Men and Things as well as with Accounts and Trade, in order to acquit himself well; for he would be to transact Business with Persons of all Ranks, and have such a Variety thereof, that he must frequently be guided by Judgment as well as Precedent, even after the Foundation was well established and regulated in other Respects.

When the several Branches of this Business are in the State before mentioned (which it is here supposed they would be at the Fourth General Meeting of the Governors and Governesses) a Day should be fixed for beginning to Receive exposed or deserted Women and Girls into the Charity-Houses, of which public Notice should be given in all the *London News-Papers*.

This being resolved upon, some of the Governors, and some of the Governesses if it was agreeable to them, should attend at each of the Three Charity-Houses all the First Day of Admission; and as a greater Number of exposed or deserted Women and Girls might apply for Relief than could be at that Time received, *FIFTY of the most distressed should be admitted into each House*: of which Distress, the Governors and Governesses there attending should determine, either by the Appearances of the Objects or by the Accounts they gave of themselves; and the Governors, &c. might likewise order some *present Relief in Money* to be given to such distressed Women and Girls as could not be then received, without rejecting those who were more distressed.

When the Subscription-Money, Donations, Revenue, &c. would admit of establishing Charity-Houses to receive *Maid-Servants* or other *industrious Women*, while out of Place or Employment, there should be a *Clerk of Inquiries* appointed, whose Business should be, to inquire the Characters of all such Women, from their last or late Mistresses or Masters: for if any of them had behaved very ill, they should not be allowed One Penny a

Day for their Work in the Preservatory, as I have proposed that such Women should be allowed besides their Meat, Drink, Washing, and Lodging ; nor ought they to be recommended by the Governesses to very good Places, but be hired to Mistresses of the lower Classes.

Proper Regard should however be had to the Characters of Mistresses as well as of Servants, because there are some People in the World who never speak well of Servants ; so that the Person appointed to this Office should have very good natural Understanding, quick Discernment, a pliant Temper, and be able to talk with People in their own Way : for by the Help of such Endowments it would sometimes be discovered, that a Servant's bad Character proceeded more from her Mistress's ill Tongue, or a jarring of Tempers, than from real ill Behaviour ; and that some Servants owed their good Characters to the Tendernefs and great Compassion of good Mistresses, more than to their own personal good Behaviour.

Such Inquiries possibly might not be attended with Success in every Instance, but the making of them will certainly prevent good Mistresses and bad Servants, as well as bad Mistresses and good Servants, from coming together so often as they would otherwise do, and I think it would help to reform some of both : for when it was publicly known that such Inquiries were made into the Characters of Mistresses as well as of Servants, the Bad of both would be ashamed to appear before a Committee of the Governors or Governesses, as their coming there would only serve to expose their ill Behaviour.

The writing Part of this Business to be done by a Man who should also make such of the Inquiries as could not conveniently or properly be made by a well-bred Woman ; and the agreeable Part of those Inquiries should be made by a Gentlewoman qualified as before mentioned, appointed by the Governesses, and intirely under their Direction : but whenever any Thing happened in the Course of this Business that was disagreeable or improper for the Governesses to have any Concern with, the Cognizance of all such Matters might be transferred to the Governors, who should be informed thereof by the said Gentlewoman, if proper for her to relate, otherwise, it should be related by the Clerk who was appointed to do the writing Part of this Business.

There should likewise be a *Clerk of Inquiries* appointed for exposed or deserted Women and Girls, as he might be well employed in discovering the Places of Settlement of all such Women and Girls as either believed they were legally intitled to Relief from some Parish in this Metropolis, or gave such Accounts of themselves as left room to suspect it : for if proper Care be not taken herein, the proposed Foundation may soon be burthened with Women and Girls who belong to Parishes in *London, Westminster,*

Westminster, or Southwark; and therefore, every Woman or grown-up Girl who did not give a true and satisfactory Account of herself, should be employed in the most servile Work, and not be so well treated in any respect as she would otherwise have been.

In order to make *more extensive and speedy Provision of Places and Employment* for Maid-Servants, and for other Women who maintained themselves by some Kind of Manufactory or other honest Industry, a Correspondence should be carried on, by the honorary Secretaries or other superior Officers, with respectable Persons in the principal Cities and Towns of this Kingdom: for by the good Offices of such Correspondents, many Women, who would otherwise remain some Time in the Preservatory, might be speedily provided for, and probably more to their Satisfaction than staying in *London* would be; because many People, even in lower Stations, have not their Health here, and those Women would there have some respectable Person for a Sort of Guardian.

As to the Establishment of *New Manufacturies*, that seems to me to be an After-Consideration which should be postponed till the Foundation is well established; and as I have already pointed out what Country Manufacturies should, in my humble Opinion, be made Choice of, the Persons who deal in such Manufactures can easily determine, what particular Sorts will be most proper to be wrought by exposed or deserted Women and Girls.

There is room to say a great deal more upon this Subject, but since it either relates to such Matters as may be regulated by established Rules in other Charitable Foundations, or must be bounded by the Amount of the Subscription-Money, I think it will be rather improper than necessary for me to say more concerning the Establishment of temporary Charity-Houses for exposed or deserted Women and Girls: especially, as all or any of these Propositions may, if nothing better is thought of, be carried into Execution upon a more or less extensive Plan than what I have mentioned, for the Point here aimed at is not so much the Latitude as the Rectitude of Measures necessary to be taken upon the present Occasion.

And I have employed the most Time in endeavouring to lay the Foundation, consistently with the general Interest of these Kingdoms, with true Charity, and with the greatest Oeconomy; for if that be well laid, the Superstructure may be easily improved, but a good House is of little Worth when it stands upon a bad Foundation.



P A R T IV.

CONCERNING the immediate ESTABLISHMENT
Of Temporary

CHARITY-HOUSES,

T O

RECEIVE, EMPLOY, and RECLAIM,
PENITENT PROSTITUTES;

Until an Increase of *Subscription-Money, Donations, Legacies, or a certain Revenue*, shall enable the Governors of such Charity-Houses to have more proper Houses, &c. purposely built for the Reception of all such PROSTITUTES, and to defray the Charges of Relieving and Reclaiming them, &c.

AS Penitence is made the Condition upon which common Prostitutes are to be intitled to the Benefit of the intended Foundation, there doth not seem to be much Difficulty in determining who are proper Objects, because it is natural to think and charitable to believe that such People are Penitent when they look sorrowful: and yet when the Matter comes to be more closely considered, many Difficulties appear which make true Determination rather Chance than Judgment, for there is a wide Difference between that Penitence which is produced by bodily Pain, and that which flows from a contrite Heart, though alike in outward Shew.

The first named Sort of Penitence is a constant Companion to Disease, when it visiteth Persons who do not lead such dissolute Lives as common Prostitutes

Prostitutes do; and yet most People will be able to recollect Instances wherein a Sick-bed Repentance hath weakened as the Body strengthened, and fled with the Disease which brought it: so that there seems to be a Necessity for taking *wary Measures* to prevent, as far as may be, all such Relapses of common Prostitutes into their former evil Courses; for better Things cannot be expected from them than are frequently observed in Persons of much less reproachable Lives, nor should the Meeting with worse be reckoned a Disappointment.

All or most of those unhappy Women have undoubtedly penitential Intervals, and would at those Times come in great Numbers to be received into a Reformatory; because it is natural to seek for Relief from *Disease, Pain, Hunger, &c.* and these would imprint in those Women's Faces very legible Letters of Recommendation for Charity: so that the Reformatory would probably be soon filled, and with such miserable or distressed Women and Girls as were strongly marked with the Penitence of Wretchedness; but as Effects do ever cease when their Causes are removed, it is in vain to expect that an universal Principle of Nature will be suspended in this particular Instance.

Such of those Women and Girls as became Prostitutes by Necessity might with good Reason be expected to forsake their evil Courses when the first Cause thereof was taken away; and yet I fear that the Place of *Necessity* would, in some Instances, be so powerfully supplied by *ill Habits* and *licentious Living*, as to produce a Continuation of like Effects: so that many of those common Prostitutes who applied for Relief, would be apt to look upon the Reformatory as a Prison, when they were restored to Health; and if it was in or very near this City they would think more of *Escaping* than *Reforming*, nor would there be a Want of dissolute People here to get them away by one Means or other.

It is also to be considered, that those Women and Girls must sometimes come out of the Reformatory to breathe fresh Air for the Recovery and Preservation of their Healths; and if they were to walk in Fields near this City, there would be constant Opportunities for them to go away, or to be tampered with by ill-designing Persons: for there are Women-Deluders of both Sexes, and some of them would not fail to haunt, under the Characters of Gentlemen or Ladies, those Places where the Women walked; so that a strong and even an armed Guard would scarcely be sufficient to prevent such masked Deluders from enticing the most desirable Objects to leave the Reformatory.

If those Women were to walk in small Parties, there must either be several Officers employed to attend them, or they must be left to return or not

return as they liked best ; and if they were to go all together, the knowing *who they were* would make them very liable to be insulted, and might be productive of many Quarrels, much Mischief, &c. so that whether they went out in great or small Numbers, many of them would have frequent Opportunities to go away, or the Foundation must be put to a great Charge for Officers to prevent them from doing so ; nor could this be well guarded against by their walking in a Garden, or that fully answer the Purpose of preserving Health.

For allowing those Women a walled Garden to walk in would not prevent them from thinking they were treated as Prisoners, or from endeavouring to regain their Liberty ; and so long as they entertained such Thoughts, they would go to the Windows as often as they could, where they would seldom fail of seeing People to favour their getting out : nor would there be a Want of idle young Men to loiter about a Reformatory, in or very near this City, who might frequently cause the gathering of Mobs ; and when Riot is once set on foot in this Metropolis, there is no saying what Disorders or Mischiefs will not ensue, especially when *Women of this Sort* are the Objects of Attention.

If a Reformatory was to be established in or very near this City, the Faces of all or most of the Women and Girls would be known to Thousands of inquisitive People ; and the Consequences thereof must necessarily be, that the most sincere Penitence and the greatest Decency of Behaviour would not be Security against future Reproaches, Insults, &c. so that when those unfortunate Women were really reclaimed and appeared again in Society, they would be pointed at by ill-natured or rude People ; and a personal Resemblance to one or other of those Women or Girls might occasion many virtuous Women to be mistaken for, and sometimes to hear themselves called, *reclaimed Prostitutes*.

Certainly the Prevention of so many Evils, Mischiefs, cruel Reproaches, and false Brands with Prostitution, doth highly merit the serious Consideration of all worthy Persons ; and I must beg Leave to say, that these and other Matters of the same Kind, do appear to me to be unanswerable Objections against establishing a Reformatory in or very near this City : for which several Reasons, I do humbly propose, that the intended Reformatory be established in a healthful Situation, at the Distance of Fifteen or Twenty Miles from *London* ; and that there be not any other Establishment of the like Sort within this Metropolis, excepting a House or Houses of Refuge, for the immediate Relief of such common Prostitutes as shall apply for Help and Protection.

The Reclaiming of such unhappy Women and Girls is a second, though very great, Consideration, and should be undertaken after Charity hath fed and Medicine cured, as Humanity ought to take the Lead; for when she hath done her Part, Religion may come in with much more Grace, and her divine Influence be more sensibly felt, as the Pains of Wretchedness and Disease will then be removed. So that to me it appears very improper to let any of those Women or Girls continue in or very near this City, longer than the Cure of Disease shall make necessary; or to send such as are Diseased to a Reformatory, till they are so far restored to Health, that Kitchen-Physic, fresh Air, and a little Time, would probably complete their Cure.

When this was done, the constant Prospect of a pleasant Country would gradually dispel their Gloom of Mind, the not hearing of improper Conversation would by Degrees wean them from such as was so, and a general Appearance of Decency, good Order, Sobriety, Industry, &c. would soon produce in them a Conformity to such good Examples: to promote which, all those Women and Girls should, not only be classed but kept separate, and removed out of one Class into another, according to the Progress they made in Reformation; so that those who were hardened in Wickedness, or audacious, might not produce ill Effects in such as were well-inclined, but be governed and treated suitably to their bad Behaviour.

If a *Reformatory* was established at the Distance of Fifteen or Twenty Miles from *London*, One Mile from a *public Highway*, and about the same Distance from a *good Market-Town*, all those Evils and Mischiefs which I have mentioned, as inevitable Consequences of establishing a Reformatory in or very near this Metropolis, might be effectually prevented: for not One in a Hundred of those ill-designing or inquisitive People who may well be expected to haunt about a Reformatory in or very near this City would be at the Trouble or Expence of going Fifteen or Twenty Miles to One; and as to those few whom neither Expence nor Trouble could deter, the Want of a public Road to the Reformatory would divest them of every honest Pretence for going to it.

They might therefore be suspected of coming with felonious Intentions, and the Gall of such a Thought being entertained of them, would imbitter their Expectations of another Sort; nor could Drunkenness be an Excuse for any Disorders which wealthy Rakes might there commit, because their riding from *London* would dissipate the Fumes of Liquor and give Time for Reflection: and as to those Persons who were so far lost to all Sense of Honour, Manliness, and Shame, as to attempt gaining Admission into such a Reformatory by violent Means, they might be properly dealt with by Two veteran Soldiers of sober Disposition and good Morals, for a Number of such Soldiers may be found in marching Regiments.

If the Discharges of Two such *Soldiers* were obtained, proper *Fire-Arms* provided for them, and they allowed *Six Pounds a Year* each, besides their Meat, Drink, Cloathing and Lodging, they would be a good Guard; and Two *House-Dogs* would be sure to give Notice of any approaching Danger, so that the Reformatory might be very well secured at a moderate Expence: for Two such *Soldiers* may be usefully employed in the Kitchen-Garden, in going to the Market-Town for Provisions, and in a Number of household Affairs; but they should have strict Orders *never to be both absent from the Reformatory upon any Account whatever, nor to receive or deliver any Letters or Messages from or to Women or other Persons there, without first acquainting the Housekeeper.*

Under these Circumstances, the Reformation of common Prostitutes would go on well, *for they would have great Inducements to entertain good Thoughts, but none to harbour bad ones*; and they might be allowed the Liberty of walking in the adjacent Fields with the *Housekeeper*, &c. without being insulted, or having any *Temptations to go away*: nor would their *Faces there become known* to Thousands of ill-natured or rude People, so that the Knowledge of their past ill Conduct might be nearly confined to those who had been Parties in it; and when those Women were fit to be received into Society again, they would be treated suitably to their present good Behaviour, and *be secured from many cruel Reproaches.*

But in order to make such Security the greater, I think it would be proper to provide Places or Employment in the Country, or in some other Part of the Kingdom, for as many of the reclaimed Women and Girls as could be so provided for; because Reproaches for such past Misconduct must needs prove Daggers to the Minds of true Penitents: and when it is considered how much Encouragement the intended Foundation hath met with from the principal Nobility and Gentry, as well Ladies as Gentlemen, there cannot be any Doubt of their readily endeavouring to provide proper Places or Employment in their respective Neighbourhoods for true and deserving Penitents.

These are my Sentiments concerning the Establishment of Charity-Houses for Reclaiming Penitent Prostitutes; and I shall now proceed to mention the principal Things which seem, in my humble Opinion, necessary to be done, in order to establish Temporary Houses for that Purpose; but I shall avoid particular Repetitions of such Things already mentioned as may be proper here, for referring to them will be sufficient.

As to the constituent or principal Parts of the Business now under Consideration, I humbly apprehend there is a very great Affinity between them and the constituent or principal Parts of the Business already considered;
and

and therefore think that what I have proposed for the One may be proper for the Other : because all the Objects intended to be Relieved, by these Foundations, are exposed or deserted Women and Girls ; and though such of them as come under this Class have Guilt, and perhaps Disease, added to their Distress, yet, I do not see how that Difference in their Circumstances can make any different Management necessary, excepting in regard to *Religion, Physic, and Caution.*

The two former of which must be left to the Piety and good Sense of a *Chaplain*, or to the Skill and Experience of a *Surgeon*, &c. for they have not the least Connection with the constituent Parts of this Business ; nor is the *Caution*, necessary to be observed, of such a Sort as to require any essential Alteration in Governing : so that for any Thing which at present appears to me, the same general Method that I have already proposed, for Relieving, Employing, &c. of *exposed or deserted Women and Girls*, will be as applicable to the Relieving, Employing, Reclaiming, &c. of *common Prostitutes* ; as far as relates to the several Matters which are comprised under the Sixteen following Heads :

1. — The determining, What annual *Subscription* or *Donation* shall intitle any Personage or Person to be a *Governor* or *Governess* of the intended Foundation ?
2. — The ascertaining, What Number of Governors and what Number of Governesses should constitute *Committees* to give necessary Orders and Directions concerning Matters of lesser Consequence in their respective Departments ?
3. — The *distributing* of this Business between the Governors and the Governesses.
4. — The chusing of *Presidents* and *honorary Secretaries*.
5. — The electing of a *Treasurer* and a *Superintendant of Manufacturies*.
6. — The appointing of a *Chaplain*, a *Surgeon*, and a *House-Steward*.
7. — The employing of *Housekeepers* to manage Household Affairs, and *Mistresses* to instruct the Women and Girls in Spinning, Sewing, and Reading.
8. — The appointing of a *Business Secretary*.
9. — The employing of *Clerks* to keep the various Accounts relating to the Foundation.
10. — The appointing of a Committee to manage all Affairs relating to *Houses*, &c.
11. — The appointing of a Committee for *Cloathing*.
12. — ————— for *Provisions, Coals, &c.*
13. — ————— for *Manufacturies*.

14. — The taking of *preparatory Measures* for Establishing this Foundation.
15. — The *employing* of the Women and Girls in *Spinning of Linen Yarn*.
16. — The *providing of Places, Employment, or Mistresses* for them, as soon as they can properly be discharged from the Foundation.

In all these principal Matters, the Methods of Governing *exposed or deserted Women and Girls*, seem to me to agree with the Methods proper for Governing such *Penitent Prostitutes* as shall desire to be received into a Reformatory, and therefore I must beg Leave to refer to what I have already proposed on those Heads: but there are several other principal Matters of which I have not yet taken any Notice, or have mentioned so briefly that it will be requisite to say more of them, and these I shall now proceed to consider with as much Brevity as I can.

Concerning the Classing of Penitent Prostitutes who shall apply for Relief.

- Class 1.* . . 1. — Women or Girls who had been virtuously and genteelly Educated, of which there were evident Proofs in their Conversation and visible Traces in their Demeanour.
2. — Women or Girls who appeared and behaved as if they had been Servants in reputable Families, or were evidently a Degree above the meanest Sort of People.
3. — Women or Girls who were very ignorant, rude, untractable, or audacious.
4. — Women or Girls whose Principles of Health and Strength were so far vitiated or impaired as not to be restorable in any tolerable Degree, or who were made shocking Objects by the Havock of Disease.

This or some such Distribution of the Penitent Prostitutes into Classes seems to me to be highly necessary for promoting the great and good Work of Reclaiming them; and as it is evident that the Women or Girls who shall properly come under any one of those Classes will not be proper Companions for Women or Girls of the other Classes,

It necessarily followeth,

That Four Houses will be wanted for Reformatories, exclusive of Two other Houses for *present Relief* and for an *Infirmiry*, in order to make this Establishment complete.

Concerning the Situation of Houses for Reformatories, &c.

As I have already shewn the great Necessity of having the intended Reformatories established in the Country, in order to secure and promote the true End and Design of such a Foundation, what remains on this Head will more properly come under the Consideration of the principal Subscribers: but I must nevertheless beg Leave to mention several Things which a country Situation will, in my humble Opinion, make necessary to have done; and though in themselves miscellaneous, yet they seem to me to be reducible under this general Head, for which Reason I shall here offer what I have to say concerning them.

First. — The Houses for Reformatories should be all situated on the same Side of this City, and near such a great Road as is tolerable good in Winter; that the visiting Governors and Governesses may easily visit and return from the several Reformatories in a Winter-Day; and that the Carriage of *Materials, Manufactures, Furniture, &c.* may not be made expensive by bad Roads.

Second. — That those Parts of the Country and those particular Houses (if convenient in other Respects) should be preferred where there is the best *Water* for household Uses, and where *Coals* may be brought at a moderate Expence.

Third. — That as Houses in which Gentlemen have lived are most of them provided with very convenient Offices, large and walled Gardens, good Water, &c. some such uninhabited Houses would be extremely proper for Reformatories, and may probably be had upon Lease at moderate Rents.

Fourth. — That supposing Four Reformatories should be established in the Country, for Penitent Prostitutes of the Four Classes under which I have distributed them; I do in that Case propose as followeth:

That Penitents of the *First Class* should reside in the farthest Reformatory of the Four, which should likewise be the Residence of a *Chaplain*; and as an *Accountant* will be very necessary in each Reformatory, he, together with Two discharged *Soldiers* would be sufficient to remove all Apprehensions of Danger there.

That

That Penitents of the *Second Class* should reside in the next distant Reformatory, where a *Surgeon* should likewise reside; and he together with an *Accountant* and Two discharged *Soldiers* as before mentioned would well guard that Reformatory.

That Penitents of the *Third Class* should reside in the nearer Reformatory, where a *House-Steward* should also reside; and he together with *Three other Men* as before mentioned would protect that Reformatory; but the audacious Ones in this Class should be kept in another House with the Fourth Class, by Way of Punishment, and yet so as not to have any Intercourse with them.

That Penitents of the *Fourth Class* should be kept in that Reformatory which was nearest to *London*; and as it would be necessary to have a stern-looking and sensible, but not cruel, *Task-Master* to keep the audacious Ones in order, he together with *Three other Men* as before mentioned would deter *Street-Robbers*, &c. from coming to that Reformatory to look for *Female Associates*.

Thus might Four Reformatories be well guarded at a small Expence, because all the Persons guarding would be employed in double Capacities.

And if the farthest Reformatory was 16 Miles off; the Second, 12 Miles; the Third, 8 Miles; and the Fourth, 4 Miles distant from this City (or at other Distances, according as proper Houses could be had for these Purposes); Two visiting Governors and Two visiting Governesses might travel to all of them in Two Post-Chaises, without much Fatigue or great Expence, and easily return to Town the same Day.

Fifth. — That if a *Field* or two which lay near each Reformatory could be rented, the taking of them would be a Convenience; for a few *Cows* might then be kept to supply the Women and Girls with *Milk*; and likewise three or four strong *Horses*, for a *Post-Chaise* to carry the Housekeepers, other Women, &c. and for a *Cart* to send Goods, &c. to or from the Reformatories as Occasion may require; by which Means I think there might be more Money saved than was expended, but Things of this Sort will depend much upon other Circumstances.

Concerning Employment for Penitent Prostitutes.

What I have to offer here, relates only to Penitents of the *First Class*; for as to the *Second, Third, and Fourth Classes* of Penitents, they certainly ought to be Employed in Spinning of *Linen Yarn*, for the many national and charitable Reasons already mentioned in the First or Second Parts of this Plan; excepting the very Ingenious among these Three Classes, as they may probably be better employed in New Manufacturies: but Spinning is not likely to be agreeable to Penitents of the *First Class*, though it was formerly the Employment even of *British Ladies of Quality*; and since it may be presumed that most of such Penitents will be capable of working *Ruffles, Handkerchiefs, &c.* or of making up fine *Linen*, I think they should be Employed as the Governesses shall be pleased to direct.

Concerning the Uniformity of Cloathing for Penitent Prostitutes.

The same Motives of Benevolence which have set this Charitable Establishment on foot, will naturally lead to the Choice of such Sorts of Relief as shall be suitable to the former Stations of the Persons relieved; for which Reason I propose, that Penitents of the *First Class* should be *variously clothed* as to the Colours of their Gowns, &c. and that Penitents of the *Second Class* should either have Gowns, &c. of different Colours, or be clothed in an Uniform that will not be disagreeable in reputable Families; but I think that Penitents of the *Third and Fourth Classes* may very properly be clothed in the same Sorts of Gowns, &c. which *Parochial Poor* commonly wear.

Concerning Victuals and Drink for Penitent Prostitutes.

As to a *Bill of Fare* for such Women and Girls, that must be submitted to the Governors and Governesses; but I think that neither *Tea* nor *Coffee* should be allowed to any of the Penitents, excepting those of the *First Class*; unless the same was necessary on account of Health, in which Case it should be prescribed by the *Physician or Surgeon*, because many of the Women and Girls might pretend Illness, in order to be allowed *Tea* or *Coffee*: and as to *Wine, Rum, Brandy, Geneva, strong Beer, or Cyder*, none should be allowed to the Penitents of any Class otherwise than *medicinally*, and, excepting upon sudden Occasions, by written Prescriptions from the *Physician or Surgeon*; which Prescriptions the *Housekeepers* should produce as Vouchers for the *Tea, Coffee, and strong Liquors* Expended.

*Concerning such Misbehaviour of Penitent Prostitutes,
as shall require more than a Reprimand.*

It is commonly found that gentle Means, when guided by Prudence and good Sense, are the most efficacious for promoting Instruction, Reformation, and Obedience; and such Means will certainly be most proper with regard to Penitent Prostitutes when they commit lesser Faults, unless their natural Tempers are bad indeed: so that instead of scolding, or reproaching them for their former evil Courses, &c. the Housekeeper should not let them walk into the Fields or Garden for some Time, or not allow them to dine till the other Women had dined, or oblige them to work earlier or later than the rest; all which may be done without Passion.

*Concerning the making of future Provision for
Penitent Prostitutes.*

I have already observed, that there is a wide Difference between forming a separate Community of exposed or deserted Women and Girls, and giving them proper Relief and Instruction till they are fit for and can be received into the great Community, from which, Accidents or Misfortunes of one Kind or other have unhappily driven them; and that as they are unfortunate Out-casts, the first and great Care should be, to help them into Society; because that would soonest ease the Foundation of Expence, and be the most likely Way to promote their future Welfare, as it would be the Interest of their Mistresses and Masters to keep them industrious, honest, and sober.

Now these Observations do appear to me to be much stronger in regard to Penitent Prostitutes, than in relation to exposed or deserted Women and Girls; for the unavoidable Expences of giving proper Relief to the Former, will be greater, almost beyond Comparison, than the Expences of properly Relieving an equal Number of the Latter: and that, together with Considerations which relate to the Public Weal of this Kingdom, as well as the Propriety of restoring to full Liberty all Penitent Prostitutes, who shall be fit to come into Society; do upon the Whole, seem to make it highly Expedient, to have those unfortunate Women and Girls helped into Stations somewhat suitable to their Educations.

It may not be easy, or indeed practicable, to do this in every Instance, but I am persuaded that the Nobility and Gentry who patronize Charity-Houses of this Sort, will find Means to complete, as far as may be, the good Work which their Benevolence hath begun; and, as too much Care cannot be taken, to prevent reclaimed Women from relapsing into their former evil

Courses,

Courses, I shall mention some general Methods of providing for the *First*, *Second*, and *Third* Classes of Penitents, which seem, in my humble Opinion, to promise the greatest Security against such Relapses.

Penitents of the *First Class* may reasonably be supposed to have wealthy or substantial Relations; and I think that the Probability of being able to restore Happiness to many worthy Families as well as to many unfortunate Daughters, will make Intercession, with the Former in behalf of the Latter, a most pleasing Employment to the Governesses: but I fear it will be difficult to provide suitably for such Penitents of this Class as have irreconcilable or unfortunate Relations; and yet I am inclined to hope that the great Compassion and Goodness of the Governesses will remove most of those Difficulties.

Some Penitents of the *Second Class* may probably have substantial Relations, who might be induced to take them into Favour again, by the Mediation of a Governess or a Governor, as shall be thought most proper; and I do not see how a wealthy Farmer, who wanted a Woman-Servant, could properly refuse to take One that was Recommended by a truly noble or most worthy Lord, Gentleman, or Lady, to whom he probably was farther obliged than bare Respect could equal.

Penitents of the *Third Class* would not be fit for Servants in genteel Families, but they might be useful in Places where Strength and Willingness to do much hard Work, are the most essential Qualifications; and I think that by Recommendation of the Governors or Governesses, all, excepting the audacious Part of this Class, may be provided for in lesser Farmers Families, and the others be hired for Servants in Ale-Houses, &c.

As to the *Fourth Class*, I do not see how they can be otherwise provided for than in Alms-Houses, where they may be employed in *Spinning of Linen Yarn*, so as partly to maintain themselves, and partly to be maintained; for it cannot be expected that even the meanest Master or Mistress would knowingly take such Women for Servants; nor doth it seem at all proper to bring such miserable Creatures into Society again, in any Station whatever.

Miscellaneous Propositions.

First. — That being a Governor should not intitle any Gentleman to visit the Reformatories, till a General Court of the Governors had elected him for a *Visitor*.

Second. — That annual Inquiries should be made, by proper Officers, into the Behaviour of all Girls who shall be bound Apprentices from the Charity-Houses, and into the Treatment they meet with from their Masters or Mistresses.

Third.

- Third.* — That like Inquiries should be made in regard to reclaimed Prostitutes, so long as they continue unmarried.
- Fourth.* — That any friendless Woman or Girl who had been in a Charity-House of either Sort, and behaved well afterwards, should be befriended by the Governors, if she met with any Accident or ill Treatment that made their Interposition necessary and proper.
- Fifth.* — That any Penitent of the *First* or *Second* Class who shall be destitute of substantial Relations, and, for that or other good Reasons, be desirous of settling in some of the *British Colonias*, should be permitted to go there, and be provided with such *Cloaths* and *Money* as the *Governesses* shall be pleased to direct: but I think that *giving Portions* to reclaimed Women, of these or the other Classes, is more likely to promote *Vice* than *Virtue*; because many poor Women might be thereby induced to commence Prostitutes, in hopes of getting a *Portion*.
- Sixth.* — That if any of the *Linen Yarn*, which shall be spun for Sale, cannot be disposed of to Advantage, it should be weaved into Cloth, bleached, &c. because every Family wants *Linen Cloth*, though few People buy *Linen Yarn*; and if such Cloth could not be sold without Loss, it should then be made Use of in the Charity-Houses.
- Seventh.* — That all *Drugs* or other *Medicines* should be provided at the best hand, and be mixed or prepared by the *Surgeon*, or some Person under his Direction; and that the Office of *Physician to the Charity-Houses* should be declared honorary, but have an annual Allowance annexed to it for *Coach-hire* and *travelling Charges*.
- Eighth.* — That as Charity-Houses may be established and supported without an express Law for those good Purposes, I am humbly of Opinion, that Application for such a Law should be deferred, till *Experience* hath pointed out the principal Things necessary to be done for the *successful Establishment* and good Government of them: and as to *RULES* and *ORDERS* for the Charity-Houses, proper Ones may be easily selected from some or other of the *Rules* and *Orders* already established for other Charitable Foundations.

The End of this P L A N.

OBSERVATIONS

RELATING TO

The Foundling - Hospital.

AN Hospital for exposed and deserted young Children is highly necessary in this great City, to prevent the Destruction of illegitimate Infants and to preserve from Forfeiture the Lives of many wretched Mothers whom a strong Sense of Shame might otherwise precipitate into capital Offences; but it is Matter of Concern that Depravity of Morals hath made such Progress in this Metropolis as to produce a great Number of Foundlings, and that Dissoluteness hath so far got the better of Parental Affection as to induce married People of the poorer Sort to give up and forsake their own Offspring.

Because the Happiness of Individuals and the Welfare of Society do very much depend upon preserving those natural Obligations which are by that Means dissolved; for as such Children are deserted in Infancy by their Parents, the Latter do thereby forfeit all their natural Claim of Assistance in Old Age from the Former: so that the Charge of Maintaining and Educating those Children will necessarily bring on another Charge to Maintain their Parents when they grow Old; for though some of them may be wealthy or substantial Persons, yet *Nine* out of *Ten* are undoubtedly common People who have no other Means of Living than by Labour.

And it is highly probable that the unnatural Example of such Parents will be followed by their Sons and Daughters, when they come to be Fathers and Mothers; as they will not have any *known Brothers, Sisters*, or other Relations, to *give them good Advice*, to *assist them while they behave well*, or to *restrain them from doing ill*: for though an honest Education is a great Matter, yet will the future Influence thereof be very small without the proper Accompaniments of *Kindred and Parental Example*; and as they will be intirely deprived of the former, I do not see how better can be expected from them, than their doing by their Children as their Parents did by them.

For there is a Shew of Reason in such Retaliation, and though Nature may plead strongly against it, yet will natural Dislike to hard Labour be a powerful Opponent; and when People *who live from Hand to Mouth* can have their Children maintained at the Public Charge, it is most probable that *Inclination to Ease* will get the better of *Parental Affection*: so that the Nation is in a likely Way to increase, by *Parents being released from the strong Obligations they are under of Maintaining and Educating their own Children*; for as People may now enjoy natural Pleasures without bearing those consequential Charges which they ought to pay, and with an Exemption from Punishment and Shame, the Consequence will be, *one Sort of INCREASE.*

But when the remote Consequences of *such an Increase* come to be considered, I fear they will be found of so dangerous a Tendency as to merit most serious Attention; for of all the Misfortunes which can happen to an innocent Person in Civil Society, there are few so great as that of being destitute of real or reputed Parents and Relations: and the Situation of Children who are Educated as Foundlings will be even worse than this, for they cannot know *Where they were born, or Who are their Parents*; nor can they have any Foundation to think better of their Parents than that *they would have destroyed them* if there had not been an Hospital to receive exposed and deserted Infants.

For though it may reasonably be hoped that many of the Children there Educated were not in that Case, yet will all of them who are not claimed by their Parents have Reason to think so; because they cannot avoid knowing, that the Hospital in which they were brought up, was purposely built to prevent the Destruction of exposed and deserted young Children: so that every Child who shall be Educated as a Foundling, will come into Society *without any one social Connection*, and with such strong Ideas of most unnatural Parental Cruelty as will not only prove *incurable Wounds to the Peace of good Minds*, but become a *very great Encouragement to Dissoluteness and living in common.*

These Considerations have induced me to look upon the HOSPITAL for *exposed and deserted young Children* with much less Satisfaction than I should otherwise have done; and to consider it as an Establishment that ought to be confined to the Subscriptions, Donations, and Legacies of private Persons, rather than extended by solemn Grants of Public Money: because a general Knowledge of those Grants, in all Parts of this Kingdom, will probably cause *Five Children* to be *made Foundlings*, for *One Child* that is *really so*; and if there should be any express Appropriation to reimburse such Public Money, *Foundling-Children* may probably be INCREASED to *Ten, Twenty, or Thirty Times* their proper Number.

For

For though the having of Children out of Wedlock will not be at all justified by those Means, yet will they be apt to produce the Effects of a Justification among common People; and as to the Scandal which it is now thought to be, for working People who are married *to give up and forsake their Children*, that will wear off as the Practice increases: so that if the FOUNDLING-HOSPITAL should continue to be countenanced and supported in that public and unlimited Manner which it hath been of late Years, I am humbly of Opinion, that the Charge thereof to the PUBLIC would not be so little by the End of this Century as ONE MILLION OF POUNDS Sterling *per Annum*.

And the Charge of Maintaining parochial Poor, must, in that Case, necessarily be increased *several Hundred THOUSAND Pounds a Year*, by the Parents of Foundling-Children; so that the *Commodities and Manufactures* of this Nation would probably be loaded with A TAX of *One MILLION Five Hundred THOUSAND Pounds a Year*, for, or in consequence of, the FOUNDLING-HOSPITAL: but even this is not the worst that may be expected, for in Fifty Years Time there would probably be *Fifty Thousand MEN and WOMEN without any one known Relation*; and what SOCIETY hath to hope or fear from that Number of such People, may easily be guessed by the Histories of those Men and Women whose Lives are ended at Tyburn.

As to *Foreign Experience in Foundling-Hospitals* or concerning *Foundling-People*, it is of little Weight here, because the Circumstances of these Nations in regard to LIBERTY and PLENTY cannot be equalled; nor can Experience relating to *Children educated in CHARITY-SCHOOLS* invalidate what I have mentioned concerning *Foundlings*, because the Former know *Who their Parents are or were*; so that they come into Society with the same Sort of Connections which other People have, and without any shocking Ideas of most unnatural Parental Cruelty; but the Latter must come into the wide World without being able to claim Kindred with *Man, Woman, or Child*, and under a Sort of Necessity to conceal by *Falsities* their forlorn Condition.

For frequent Experience shews, that personal Merit and Wealth are hardly sufficient to obtain that general good Reception for illegitimate Persons which other Persons have of course; and as to illegitimate People of the lower Classes, they always labour under Disadvantages on that Account, nor is there any Scruple made of branding them with Bastardy: but the Masters and Mistresses of well-regulated Families are very scrupulous of employing such People, for though they may behave well, yet Experience is against them; and if this be the Case of illegitimate People *who know their Parents and Relations*, what must be the Case of Foundling-Children, *the most wretched of all ILLEGITIMATES?*

If

If they ingenuously tell their hard Case, the Consequence will be, a Subjection to such Reproaches and contemptuous Treatment, as mild and good Dispositions cannot bear up against; so that an audacious and licentious Behaviour, *the first Step toward Ruin*, must necessarily be contracted, to brave what a commendable Demeanour cannot support: or if they say that the Places of their Birth are in such a Town or Parish, they will some Time or other be questioned by Persons who know those Places, and then the Falsity will be discovered; in which Case, those unhappy People are more likely to be suspected of *Murder* or *Robbery* in their native Places, than of being thought *innocent* and *forlorn*.

Certainly the evident Probability that most Foundlings must come into one or other of these truly pitiable Circumstances, cannot be thought lightly of by humane and benevolent Persons; for next to destroying or maiming of Children, the bringing of them up in a Way that is almost sure to make their Lives unhappy doth seem to me to be the greatest Cruelty: and that most of the Children who are Educated as Foundlings will either be *unhappy in themselves* or *mischievous to Society*, appears too plain from the several Matters before mentioned; so that I cannot help wishing to see this Sort of Education restrained within narrow Bounds, for *the Lives of a Hundred Children may be preserved without making a Thousand wretched*.

I shall be very glad to find that these Matters are not as they appear to me, and if any Person can invalidate what I have here mentioned, I hope he will do it publicly: but if these Observations should be in some Measure right, there will unhappily be too much Reason for saying, that this *present Humanity* will be *future Cruelty*.

As to an *Increase of People* by these *lawless Means*, I am so far from expecting any such Thing, that I really believe they would ultimately cause great *Depopulation*; for working People who are sober and industrious, have not only more Children than dissolute People, but such as are more able and willing to perform the several Duties of Life.

And as to any Reference to the FOUNDLING-HOSPITAL in *France*, I shall only say, that if the *French* bring up poor Children so as to make them wretched, this Nation should not follow their Example. — A Government that doth not scruple to sacrifice a *Hundred Thousand Men* to gratify *Ambition*, cannot be expected to consult the Happiness of poor Children by a proper Education; for such a Government must devise Expedients to have as many People bred as may be, and a Foundling-Education will do for poor Men who are to be *Food for Powder*: but as this Country is blessed with another Sort of Government and with a most gracious Sovereign who hath a Parental Regard for His People, — *What bath French Example to do here?*



CONSIDERATIONS

RELATING TO

The POOR and POOR'S-LAWS

OF

ENGLAND.

THE many Laws which have been made to provide for the Poor of *England*, and the vast Numbers of Beggars which are daily seen in it, do really stagger Reason and confound Judgment; for the Matter of those *Laws* is a very good Foundation for thinking *that we have not any BEGGARS*, and the Number of *Beggars* gives great Reason for believing *that we have not any POOR'S-LAWS*.

The principal Causes assigned for this strange Effect, are, a Decay of Trade, an Increase of Idleness and Drunkenness among common People, Remissness in the Civil Magistrates, &c. and it is probable that one or more of these Things have made a Number of Beggars in particular Towns and Places, but they certainly are not the great and general Causes of Begging: for the Trade of *England* is so far from being upon the Decay, that the annual Exports of *English* Commodities and Manufactures, have been **THREE TIMES** as great of late Years, as they were Eighty Years ago; and this vast Increase in our Manufacturies and Foreign Trade, doth probably give Maintenance to *Eight Hundred THOUSAND more* People now, than were maintained by Means of Trade at that Time.

As to an Increase of Idleness and Drunkenness among common People, there cannot be any Doubt of the Facts, or that a Number of Manufacturers, &c. are thereby brought to beg their Bread; but then it is to be considered, that these are not the only Causes of begging, for many People are reduced to that pitiable Way of Life, by Want of Employment, Sickness, or some other Accident: and the Reluctance, or ill Success, with which such unfortunate People do practise begging, is frequently manifested by a poor and emaciated Man or Woman being found *drowned or starved to Death*; so that though *Choice, Idleness, or Drunkenness*, may be Reasons why a Number of People are BEGGARS, yet *this Drowning, and perishing for Want*, are sad Proofs that the general Cause is NECESSITY.

And if any Person thinks those Proofs are insufficient, the great Numbers of *Thieves, Pickpockets, and common Prostitutes*, which daily infest this Metropolis, will put the Matter beyond all Doubt; for their not being *Beggars*, instead of *Thieves, &c.* is owing to the different Effects which NECESSITY produces in different People, according to their Turn of Mind, Time of Life, &c. and not to another Cause: but then it will naturally be asked, How so many People can be driven to Necessity in the Midst of Plenty, and how such Numbers of Men and Women can want Employment while our Trade is so great? — To which it may be answered, That *Depravity of Manners is the CAUSE*; but I am humbly of Opinion, that *the SOURCE of these EVILS, is in the very first LAW that was made to provide for the POOR.*

The Reader may possibly be displeased at me for saying this, as it indicates great Presumption to entertain such an Opinion concerning Public Measures which have been so long pursued; but I hope it will be considered, that when a Law doth not fully answer the good Purposes for which it was made, there must certainly be an Error or Defect in it of some Kind or other; and that when such a Law hath been amended and enforced by a Number of subsequent Laws, without producing the desired Effects, it is a strong Indication of some Fundamental Error in the First; or rather, it is the strongest Proof that can be given of there being One; so that if I cannot point out some material Defect in our Policy with regard to the Poor, it will not be, *because there is none.*

There are many ancient Laws relating to *The POOR of ENGLAND*, but the first Law whereby they were universally and regularly provided for, was made in the 43^d Year of the Reign of *Q. Elizabeth*; and as that Law is the BASIS of all our POOR'S-LAWS which have been since made, I shall here insert so much of it as is necessary to shew the general Methods of Relieving and Ordering our Poor, viz.

" Be it enacted by the Authority of this present Parliament, that the
 " Churchwardens of every Parish, and Four, Three, or Two substantial
 " Houfholders there, as shall be thought meet, having respect to the
 " Proportion and Greatness of the same Parish and Parishes, to be
 " nominated yearly in *Easter* Week, or within One Month after *Easter*,
 " under the Hand and Seal of Two or more Justices of the Peace in the
 " same County, whereof One to be of the *Quorum*, dwelling in or near
 " the same Parish or Division where the same Parish doth lie, shall be called
 " Overseers of the Poor of the same Parish : and they, or the greater Part
 " of them, shall take order from time to time, by and with the Consent of
 " Two or more such Justices of the Peace, as is aforesaid, for setting to
 " work the Children of all such whose Parents shall not by the said
 " Churchwardens and Overseers, or the greater Part of them, be thought
 " able to keep and maintain their Children ; and also for setting to work
 " all such Persons, married or unmarried, having no Means to maintain
 " them, and using no ordinary and daily Trade of Life to get their Living
 " by : and also to raise Weekly, or otherwise (by Taxation of every
 " Inhabitant, Parson, Vicar, and other, and of every Occupier of Lands,
 " Houses, Tithes impropriate, Propriations of Tithes, Coal Mines, or
 " saleable Underwoods in the said Parish, in such competent Sum and
 " Sums of Money as they shall think fit) a convenient Stock of Flax,
 " Hemp, Wool, Thread, Iron, and other Ware and Stuff to set the Poor
 " on work : and also competent Sums of Money for and towards the
 " necessary Relief of the Lame, Impotent, Old, Blind, and such other
 " among them, being poor and not able to work, and also for the putting
 " out of such Children to be Apprentices, to be gathered out of the same
 " Parish, and to do and execute all other Things, as well for the disposing
 " of the said Stock, as otherwise concerning the Premises, as to them shall
 " seem convenient. . . . Statute 43 ELIZ. Chap. 2. Sect. 1. "

This is the general Method of providing for the Poor of *England* and
Wales, and this I take to be the superior and general Cause of there being
 so many *Thieves*, *Prostitutes*, and *Beggars* of late Years ; for the POOR are
 thereby separated into such small Numbers, that by far the greater Part of
 them neither have been, nor are likely to be, Maintained and Employed
 in a proper Manner : and as this must have been known 150 Years ago, to
 the Inhabitants of less populous Parishes, in all or most of the Counties in
England, the long Continuance of this Policy is surprizing ; but the
 Inconveniences arising from a Parochial Division of the Poor, were not so
 great before the Year 1660, as they have been since, and that may be one
 Reason why it hath subsisted so long.

For during the Reigns of Q. *Elizabeth*, K. *James I.* and K. *Charles I.* the lower and middle Classes of *English* People did chiefly wear and use *Linen Cloth* that was manufactured in *England*; and as the necessary Materials and Implements for *Linen Manufacturies* were then common all over the Nation, it was easy to set poor People to work, without being at the Charge of Parochial Workhouses. *Old English Hospitality* was also a great Help to the Poor in those Times, for such of them as could not be Maintained at the Charge of their Parishes, were fed by the Bounty of the Nobility and Gentry; so that the *Linen Manufactory*, the then thriving State of *ENGLISH Woollen Manufacturies*, and great *Hospitality* with good *Oeconomy*, prevented a Parochial Separation of the Poor from producing any general Inconveniences.

But the Republic of *HOLLAND* being Established in 1648, high Duties soon after laid on *ENGLISH Woollen Manufactures*, &c. in *FRANCE*, and *FRENCH LUXURIES* introduced into *ENGLAND*, a sad Alteration ensued here, which was chiefly owing to the Latter of those Things; for *Woollen Stuffs* were discarded for *French Silks*, home-made *Linens*, for those of *France*; and *English Beer*, for *French Wines*; by which Vanity, many Thousands of Families were deprived of Employment: and those *LUXURIES* being very expensive, the former *Hospitality* could not be kept up, so that the Means of Employment and Maintenance wasted away as the Number of Poor increased; one Consequence of which sad Change, was, that many Thousands of *English* People, who had lived reputably or comfortably, were then driven by Necessity to settle in *Ireland*, *New England*, &c.

And the Number of Poor who stayed in *England*, must have been about *Two Hundred THOUSAND*, according to an Account of the then *Poors-Rates*, inserted in Dr *Davenant's* Essay on *Ways and Means*; exclusive of the poor People who, it is reasonable to believe, were supported by the Bounty of such among the Nobility and Gentry as persevered in *Old English Hospitality*: but whatever the real Number of Poor was at that Time, there were more than could be maintained, when the *Linen Manufactory* was gone, the *Woollen Manufacturies* decreased, *Hospitality* decayed, and *Distress* prevailed all over the Nation; so that many poor People were obliged to wander from one Part of the Country to another, cutting down Woods, committing other Waste, &c. as appears by the Preamble to *Statute 13 and 14 Charles II.* Chap. 12.

Then it was, that the ill Consequences of a Parochial Separation of the *POOR* first appeared in a great Degree, and the Symptoms were such, as would have led to the Root of the Disease; for the before mentioned

Preamble

Preamble sets forth, that the poor People who left their own Parishes, went to others in which there were the best Means of Maintenance, *as was extremely natural*: so that if the Matter had been traced back, it would undoubtedly have appeared, that those wandering People belonged to Parishes where they could not be Employed, or find any Means to live; and if this had been known to the Persons then in Power, as it certainly must have been to the Inhabitants of many Parishes, a proper Remedy would have been too obvious to be mistaken.

But unhappily, the sad Necessity that obliged those poor People to wander about, had not due Weight, for *the Nature of their ACTIONS*, and not *their natural WANTS*, were principally attended to; in consequence whereof, more Pains were taken to *punish* BEGGARS, than to restrain, by high Duties or other Sumptuary Laws, those *ruinous LUXURIES* which obliged Multitudes of People to beg: for by Section 23 of the aforesaid Statute, the Justices of Peace in their Quarter Sessions, are impowered to transport such Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, as shall be duly convicted and adjudged incorrigible; and as there were then many Thousands of poor unemployed People, whom their Parishes could not or would not maintain, it was easy to convict them of being *incorrigible ROGUES, VAGABONDS, or BEGGARS*.

For natural Necessity obliged them to search for Means to support Life, which could not be had without Stealing or Begging, so that they had their Choice of *Hanging, Starving, or Transportation*; and it is more owing to a vast Increase in our Manufacturies and Foreign Trade, than to Amendments in our Policy with regard to the Poor, that greater Numbers of People are not now driven to those horrid Alternatives: for a general Belief that the Law hath effectually provided for all poor People, and that all able Persons may be employed if they will work, hath almost put a Stop to giving Alms in the Streets; and the Defect of our Laws in not providing proper Methods to distinguish *Rogues, cunning Beggars, and necessitous People*, from each other, doth prevent the Relieving of real Objects, especially if they are able bodied.

Nay, our Laws seem to me to be worse than defective in this Respect, for *the very Act of BEGGING* out of their own Parishes doth make People *Rogues and Vagabonds*, according to Statute 12 Anne, Ch. 23; but Words cannot alter the Nature of Actions, and as RELIGION, REASON, and daily EXPERIENCE, tell us otherwise concerning this Matter, it may well be wondered that LAW contradicts them: for Words will as soon convince me, that a *Rose is a Thistle*, as that *the Act of BEGGING* is ROGUERY, and as to a *Presumption of GUILT*, it is not admitted in Cases of *Theft,*

Felony, Treason, or Murder; but the making of Rogues in Law, out of honest Men in NATURE, will appear in a clearer Light, when the principal ill Consequences arising from the Defects of our Policy in regard to the Poor are pointed out.

As to the Defect of our Poor's-Laws, in not making Provision for all distressed Persons, or common Poor; that will plainly appear by the following Extract, from a Digest of our principal Laws, intitled, *The Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer* —

“ By the Statute of the 43^d Elizabeth, Chap. 2. The several Parishes
 “ were required to maintain and employ their own Poor, under the Direction
 “ of Two Justices; in consequence whereof, before the Statute of Charles II.
 “ the Justices were wont to send the Poor to their own Parishes to be relieved
 “ and ordered: and there is no Power given by either of those Statutes,
 “ nor by any other, (except in the Case of Certificate Persons, and in the
 “ Case of contracting * as is herein after mentioned) to the Churchwardens
 “ or Overseers to relieve any Persons out of their own Parish, much less
 “ any Obligation upon them to exercise that Part of their Office out of their
 “ own Jurisdiction.” Vol. II. Page 264 in the 1st Edition.

Thus speaks the Reverend and Judicious Mr Burn, in regard to Legal Provision for Persons when out of their own Parishes, as some *Hundred THOUSANDS* of working People probably are at all Times; most of whom get together a small Stock of Money before they leave their native Places, and being then in Health and Strength, they may reasonably hope to support themselves by honest Industry; but Sickness, Want of Employment, or other Misfortunes, bring great Numbers of those People to Poverty, when they are far from Home, and frequently, in Places where they are not known; in which Cases, according to Mr Burn's Opinion, the Law hath not provided Relief, and yet if such distressed Persons do seek for it by asking Charity, they are deemed by Law to be *ROGUES* and *VAGABONDS*.

As to there being Employment for all able People who will work, that may be either true or false, in regard to the whole Nation, for what any one Person can possibly know; but it is certain that Thousands of common People are Unemployed, for the many *Register Offices* for Servants, &c. in this Metropolis, do prove the Want of much Work, as well as a Desire to find it: and great Numbers of those well-inclined People, are undoubtedly driven to Extremities, but it is in vain for them to seek Relief by asking Charity, because they would then be deemed *ROGUES*, and *VAGABONDS*; so that they have nothing left for it, but *Thieving, Prostitution, or Starving*, and Who will be to answer for What those distressed

* For Maintenance of the Poor.

distressed Persons DO OR SUFFER, the great SEARCHER OF ALL HEARTS only can tell.

Things which have a good Foundation, do generally thrive and prosper, but if a Judgment may be formed of the Penal Parts of our Poor's-Laws, by their INVERTED Effects, the Conclusion will be very affecting; and so long as the Law makes only a *Cobweb Partition* between STEALING and BEGGING, distressed People may well be expected not to make a *thicker* in their Minds, but to take up either Trade, *as suits them*: and that Thousands of naturally well-inclined poor People have been driven, by this strange POLICY, to *Stealing*, instead of *asking Charity*, I am firmly persuaded in my own Mind; for if meeting with less Humanity from People of the same Nation, than *wild Indians* have frequently shewn to *Englishmen*, will not make a distressed Person STEAL RELIEF, he must be of a superior Nature.

For my own Part, I cannot help looking upon this Treatment of poor People, as Repugnant to the DECREES of OMNIPOTENCE, and as a vain Contention against the NECESSITIES of HUMAN NATURE; and until every distressed poor Person is intitled to Relief, upon the Condition of working, if able so to do, it is as reasonable to expect Obedience to a Law against EATING and DRINKING, as against BEGGING and STEALING: for sad Experience in this Metropolis too plainly shews, that LAW and DISEASE, *do not end wretched Lives FASTER, than others are made WRETCHED*, to the great Concern of all good People; and as these are the deadly Fruits of SEVERITY, their Offensiveness maketh them a dreadful Proof, that HUMAN LAWS derive their greatest Force and Efficacy from RELIGION, EQUITY, and HUMANITY.

This, the Histories of various Ages and Countries bear Witness to, and from thence the great Lord Bacon hath taken Occasion to say, *that STATES are generally too busy with their LAWS and not busy enough with EDUCATION*; to which I shall add, some Extracts from the DISCOURSE of that Righteous Judge Sir Matthew Hale, concerning the POOR, for they are so pathetically expressed that I cannot help inserting them.

Concerning the Making of Provision for the POOR.

“ A due Care for the Relief of the Poor is an Act, 1. of great Piety
 “ towards Almighty God, who requires it of us: He hath left the Poor
 “ as his Pupils, and the Rich as his Stewards to provide for them: It is
 “ one of those great Tributes that he justly requires from the rest of
 “ Mankind; which, because they cannot pay to him, he hath scattered
 “ the Poor amongst the rest of Mankind as his Substitutes and Receivers.”

“ 2. It

“ 2. It is an Act of greatest Humanity among Men. Mercy and
 “ Benignity is due to the very Beasts that serve us, much more to those
 “ that are Partakers of the same common Nature with us.

“ 3. It is an Act of great Civil Prudence and Political Wisdom: for
 “ Poverty in it self is apt to emasculate the Minds of Men, or at least it
 “ makes them tumultuous and unquiet. *Where there are many Poor, the*
 “ *RICH cannot long or safely continue such*; Necessity renders Men of
 “ phlegmatic and dull Natures stupid and indisciplinable; and Men of
 “ more fiery or active Constitutions rapacious and desperate.

Concerning the Provision made for the Poor of England.

“ At this Day it seems to me that the *English* Nation is more deficient
 “ in their prudent Provision for the Poor than any other cultivated and
 “ Christian State; at least that have so many Opportunities and Advantages
 “ to supply them.

Concerning the Penal Parts of the Poor's-Laws of England.

“ — We have very severe Laws against Begging, the very Giver
 “ being in some Cases subject to a Penalty by the Statute of 1 *James I.*
 “ Chap. 17. but it takes little Effect. And indeed as the Case stands with
 “ us, it is no Reason it should: for what Man that is of Ability can have
 “ the Conscience to deny an Alms, or to bring a Wanderer to the Punishment
 “ directed by that Statute, and the Statute of 39 *Elizabeth*, when he cannot
 “ choose but know that there is not that due Course provided, or at least
 “ used, that Persons necessitous, and able to work may have it; indeed
 “ were there a clear Means practised for the employing poor Persons, it
 “ were an uncharitable Action to relieve them in a Course of Idleness.
 “ But when I do not know there is such a Provision, *I dare not deny my*
 “ *Relief*, because I know not whether without it he may be starved with
 “ Hunger, *without his own Default*.

“ We have also very severe Laws against Theft, possibly more severe
 “ than most other Nations, yea, and than the Offence in itself simply
 “ considered deserves; and there is little to be said in the DEFENCE of the
 “ SEVERITY of the LAW herein, but the Multitude of the Offenders and
 “ the Design of the Law rather to terrify than to punish, *ut metus in omnes,*
 “ *pæna in paucos*: But it is most apparent that the LAW is FRUSTRATED
 “ of its DESIGN therein; for although more suffer at one Sessions at *Newgate*
 “ for Stealing and Breaking up Houses, and Picking of Pockets, and such
 “ other

“ other Larcenies out of the Protection of Clergy, than suffer in some other
 “ Countries for all Offences in three Years, yet the Jayls are never the
 “ Emptier: Necessity and Poverty, and want of a due Provision for the
 “ Employment of indigent Persons, and the Custom of a loose and idle
 “ Life, daily supply with Advantage the Number of those who are taken
 “ off by the Sentence of the Law: and doubtless as the Multitude of Poor,
 “ and necessitous and uneducated Persons, increase, the Multitude of
 “ Malefactors will increase, *notwithstanding the Examples of SEVERITY.*
 “ So that upon the whole Account, *the Prudence of PREVENTION*, as it
 “ is more Christian, so will it be more effectual than *the Prudence of*
 “ REMEDY: The Prevention of POVERTY, IDLENESS, and *a loose and*
 “ *disorderly* EDUCATION, even of poor Children, would DO MORE
 “ GOOD TO THIS KINGDOM, than all the *Gibbets*, and *Cauterizations*,
 “ and *Whipping-Posts*, and *Jayls* in this Kingdom, and would render these
 “ Kinds of Disciplines less necessary and less frequent.” —

Thus spoke A LORD CHIEF JUSTICE of ENGLAND, who was AN HONOUR to HUMAN NATURE.

Happy would it have been for this Nation, if that great Increase of Poor in the Reign of King Charles the Second, had led to a Removal of the Cause, instead of fruitless Endeavours to prevent the Effect; for those Symptoms of the Disease which were then plain and striking, have since been made so perplexing, by a vast Increase in our Trade from the Year 1688, that they admit of different Conclusions: because it is difficult to conceive how so many People can want Employment in the Midst of a flourishing Trade, and therefore it may well be concluded, that *Depravity of Manners is the CAUSE*; but when the Matter comes to be traced, Step by Step, and the different Circumstances of this Nation considered, it will more plainly appear, that Depravity is the EFFECT of our POOR'S-LAWS.

The Number of Parishes in *England and Wales* is about TEN THOUSAND; and the Numbers of poor People who are to be Maintained and Employed in each of those Parishes respectively, are very unequal.

The Inhabitants of those Parishes are likewise very unequal in respect of Ability to Maintain their Poor; and they are Maintained better or worse, according to the Dispositions of Parish-Officers.

The Inhabitants of about NINE THOUSAND of those Parishes, live either in Villages, or in Farm, &c. Houses at some Distance from each other; or partly collected, and partly dispersed.

The principal Inhabitants of those *Nine Thousand* Rural Parishes, are chiefly Employed in Agriculture, &c. and cannot, without much Prejudice to their own Business, give due Attention to the Ordering of their Poor.

Some Thousands of those Parishes have so few *able* Poor to maintain, that it costs them less Money to keep their Poor in Idleness, than they would have to pay, if their Poor were set to Work.

Great Numbers of those Parishes would lose, if they were at the Charge of building a Workhouse; though they might save by having One, if they had a proper Building for that Purpose.

Considerable Numbers of those Parishes neither have nor can get, proper Materials to Employ their Poor, or proper Persons to govern them; without being at a greater Expence than would be repaid by the Labour of their able Poor.

The bare Reading of these seven last Paragraphs will be sufficient to convince many Persons, that a Parochial Separation of the POOR, doth prevent the greater Part of them from being Employed; for the principal Inhabitants of every Parish, have one common Interest in regard to their Poor, which is, to RELIEVE and ORDER them in the Way that will make their Poor's-Rates THE LEAST: and as, unhappily, the Law hath made it the Interest of about Nine Parishes in Ten, to keep their Poor IDLE (since the Removal of the *Linen Manufactory*) they have accordingly kept them so; the ill Effects of which have been, much *hard Heartedness* toward distressed Persons, common Poor, &c. and in consequence thereof, a very great Increase of *Thieves, Prostitutes* and *Beggars*.

As to the first of these ill Effects, it is to be considered, that the greatest Part of the POOR'S-RATES of *England and Wales*, are paid by *Freeholders, Farmers, Merchants* and *Tradesmen*; which several Classes of Men go through great Labour or Fatigue of Body or Mind, according to their Stations, so that their being obliged to maintain poor People in Idleness must be disgusting: and though the well-educated or liberal-hearted among them, may not from thence receive any hard Prejudices concerning the Poor, but consider the Maintenance of them as a Duty of Life; yet, those Persons who have either been bred up in narrow Notions, or are naturally covetous or litigious, or find great Difficulties to support their Families, are sure to be disgusted by such Means.

And when People of these latter named Dispositions or Circumstances have a turbulent and noisy Man among them, more sensible or better disposed Persons are borne down in Parochial Business; in consequence whereof, Expedients of one Kind or other are made use of, to keep the Poor's-Rates *as low as may be*, and the Shame it is for able People to live in Idleness, is to be preached to the Poor: or if they are Proof against such Reproaches, *as a Willingness to work may well make them*, they are to be driven, by *Brow-beating, short Allowance, or Threats*, to seek for Employment; and as

to their *finding* or *not finding* WORK, or their LIVING by *Begging* or *Stealing*, when out of their own Parishes, those are Things which they must look to, or the Law will look to them.

Far be it from me, to suppose that this is the Case in most Parishes, or that there are not many worthy and charitable Persons in every Parish, but that such Practices prevail in various Places is certain; and even in this opulent City, poor People are daily hunted out of one Parish into another, in such a Manner, that a Stranger would think they have the Plague or a Pestilential Disease upon them: but the doing of this inhuman Work, is usually put upon the Parish-Beadles, who have not only general Orders to be *diligent*, but understand that Saving of Money is *acceptable to the Parish*; and as to a poor Man or Woman being hunted out of one Parish, and DYING for WANT, in the next, why, it is a *sad Thing*, TO BE SURE, but the Overseers comfort themselves *with not knowing of the DISTRESS*.

Certainly the Condition of NEGROES in our *Sugar Islands* is more eligible, than that of many a *Freeborn English* MAN or WOMAN is made, by such wicked Practices as are here mentioned; and if a Treatment that is not only *unjust* in its BEGINNING, but *totally devoid of common Humanity in the END*, will not *deprave the Manners of POOR PEOPLE*, they are not *depraveable*: but the Contrary is known by sad Experience in this Nation, and any Person who will coolly consider these Matters, may see, that the Depravity of poor People proceeds from the depraved Treatment of them; so that a *Parochial Separation of the POOR*, is the Cause of HARD HEARTEDNESS; that *produces ILL TREATMENT of distressed Persons, common Poor, &c.* and this makes them turn THIEVES, PROSTITUTES, or BEGGARS.

Great Good was expected from the Authority given in the Ninth Year of the Reign of his late Majesty, to erect a Workhouse in every Parish, or for lesser Parishes to unite in erecting joint Ones; and the Inhabitants of many Parishes have found their Account in so doing; but I much doubt whether there now are, or ever will be, *One Thousand* of such Workhouses in all *England*: for according to a printed Account of the Parochial Workhouses Established in *Nine Years*, after the said Authority was given, there were not then *Two Hundred* in the whole Nation; and as most of them belonged to Cities or Market-Towns, it is a Sort of Proof, that such Workhouses are either unprofitable to, or improper for, *Eight Thousand* of the Rural Parishes in *England and Wales*.

For though there undoubtedly are some poor People to be Maintained at the Parochial Charge, in each of those Parishes, yet, one or more of the Obstacles already mentioned, do prevent erecting of Workhouses; so that
if

if LAW doth not make it the INTEREST of the wealthy and the substantial PEOPLE of *England* and *Wales*, to Employ their Poor, the greater Part of them will continue in IDLENESS, as they have long done: for *Freeholders* and *Farmers* know the Value of TIME and MONEY too well to be frequently meeting about the Management of *Workhouses*, when they can maintain their Poor by *Weekly, &c. Allowances*; and if Rural Parishes where the Numbers of Poor are considerable, have not such Gentlemen in them as give Attention to Parochial Business; there will be but few *Workhouses* established in those Parishes.

I have now traced the general Causes of these Evils, from their first Source, a *Parochial Separation of the Poor*, to their ultimate Effects, an *Increase of Thieves, common Prostitutes, and Beggars*; and therefore shall next consider, what Alterations in the State of *England*, since the Reign of *Q. Elizabeth*, have co-operated with the Causes already mentioned, in making these Evils so extensive.

In the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*, the common People of *England* did most of them continue in the Neighbourhoods of those Cities, Towns, or Parishes, where they were born and brought up; for there was not at that Time any considerable Difference between the Quantities of Employment in different Places, other than was made by the *Woollen Manufacturies* in particular Towns, &c. and as those Manufacturies had been long established, or gradually increased, they did not cause any material Flux or Reflux of Working People to or from the said Towns, or elsewhere; nor was there any considerable Resort of Country People to *London*, excepting when the Plague had made great Devastations, for this City was then recruited by its own Stock of Inhabitants.

So that there were very good Reasons for most of the common People of *England* to stay in the Cities, Towns, or Parishes, where they were born, but none for their travelling about the Nation; because most Parts thereof had a Proportion of *Husbandmen, Artificers, Linen Manufacturers, &c.* who were sufficient to carry on *Agriculture*, necessary Trades, *Linen Manufacturies, &c.* and as to the inland Travelling caused by Foreign Trade, it was very inconsiderable, for the then EXPORTS from *England* did almost wholly consist of *Woollen Manufactures, Tin and Lead*; of which Commodities there were not more than about *One-fourth PART* so many Exported at that Time, as there have been of late Years, nor were Foreign Commodities then common here.

This being the State of *England*, in regard to the Means of Employing common working People, in the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*, the Regulations in the Poor's-Law then made were of Course accommodated to it; and as
the

the Inhabitants of most Parishes were equally capable of Employing their Poor, in *Agriculture*, Spinning of *Wool*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, &c. there was very little Reason for removing poor People out of their Parishes: especially, as Power was given by the said Law, to raise Money in wealthy Parishes, toward maintaining the Poor of other Parishes where Poverty prevailed, so that the Policy was good *upon the Whole*; because it was so well adapted to the State, at that Time, of those Circumstances, upon which Propriety or Impropropriety in this Case depend, that no general Inconveniences could arise therefrom.

Equity and good Policy then required, that common People should be discouraged from wandering about the Kingdom, because most Parishes had Employment proportionable to their Numbers, so that they suffered by working People coming from other Parishes; and this, together with a Law that forbid all labouring People (excepting licensed Glas-Men) to travel, made the Punishment of wandering Beggars somewhat *EQUITABLE*: but the *REASON* upon which this Policy doth from hence evidently appear to have been founded, hath been gone almost a Hundred Years, and yet the *POLICY* is still continued; for the modern State of *England*, in respect to the several Matters before mentioned, differs as much from the State thereof in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, as the *Sea* in a *STORM* doth from the *Sea* in a *CALM*.

The Inhabitants of most Counties and even Neighbourhoods, did then grow their own *Corn*, breed their own *Cattle*, make their own *Linen Cloth*, manufacture *Wool* for their own Cloathing, &c. and from thence arose an Equality between the Quantities of Employment in most Counties, &c. in Proportion to their Extent and Fertility, for *LAND* was then the chief Means of Maintenance: but of late Years, *Corn* is grown in one County, *Cattle* bred in another, *Cheese* made in a third, *Butter* in a fourth, *Woollen Manufacturies* confined to a few Counties, but no *Linen Manufactory* in any County; by which several Means, the Inhabitants of each County and Neighbourhood are become dependent on a Number of the others, the Equality of Employment is destroyed, and the *Linen Manufactory* lost.

Now though that Loss hath been much more than ballanced, *upon the Whole*, by a vast Increase in several Old Employments, and the Addition of many New Ones, yet it is not *EQUALLY* made up to every County, &c. for one District of the Country gives Maintenance to *Ten Times* as many People as *LIVE* in it, and another Rural District hath *Five Times* as many Inhabitants as the *LAND* will maintain: so that Multitudes of common working People cannot be Employed in their native Places, nor constantly in any one Place, but must travel from County to County, in order to find

Employment ; and the Increase of *LONDON*, or *some other Causes*, have made such a Disproportion between the Number of *Burials* and *Chriftenings* therein, that it is computed to want *EIGHT THOUSAND New Inhabitants* YEARLY.

From these feveral Alterations in the State of *England*, since the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, vast and continual Fluxes and Refluxes of the common Working People thereof must necessarily follow ; and as great Numbers of those People are, by Accidents and not their own Default, reduced to Necessity, in Places where they neither are intitled to, nor can obtain Relief, they are thereby driven to *Theft* or *Prostitution* : so that the Increases in our MANUFACTURIES and FOREIGN TRADE, *which are in themselves* NATIONAL BLESSINGS, have, by wrong Policy in regard to our Poor, *been made the Causes of Destruction* to THOUSANDS ; and those Evils, though widely extended by the said wrong Policy, are spread to a much greater Extent than they otherwise would be, by the modern DEPOPULATING POLICY of Inclosing *Common Fields*, &c.

As to Inclosing WASTE-LANDS, and the superfluous Parts of LARGE COMMONS, there are many Instances wherein the same is very beneficial to the Kingdom, and perhaps none where it is hurtful ; but whoever imagines that the Nation receives real Benefit from all Inclosures of these two Sorts, will find himself much mistaken, when he thoroughly considers the Matter : for a Gentleman may gain *One Thousand Pounds a Year* by making such Inclosures, without adding *One Person to the* NUMBER OF PEOPLE, or *One Penny a Year to the* NATIONAL WEALTH ; because the Improvement of some Lands, decreases the Value of other Lands which have been long improved ; for if People buy more *Corn, Cattle, &c.* from the Former, they will buy so much less from the Latter.

If by such an Improvement in *Cambridgeshire*, One Thousand Quarters of *Wheat* are there annually grown, which would otherwise have been supplied from *Hertfordshire*, the Nation is not thereby enriched ; or if by Improvements in *Yorkshire*, One Thousand Head of *Cattle, Sheep, &c.* are there bred, which would otherwise have been supplied from *Lincolnshire*, the Nation is not a Gainer by that Means ; because the Quantities of *Corn, Beef, &c.* EXPORTED will be just the same, and the Quantities of EMPLOYMENT equal, for *Farmers, &c.* do not grow *Corn* or breed *Cattle* at RANDOM, but as they are WANTED ; and as to a temporary Gain of Employment, by Hedging and Ditching for Inclosures, that is ballanced by a permanent Loss of Labour, in not having *Corn* to carry, or *Cattle* to drive, as before.

So that though the Nation hath undoubtedly been much enriched, upon the Whole, by the Inclosure of *Waste-Lands*, and Parts of *large Commons*, yet, there may be many Instances where it hath not gained at all; for in the Cases before stated, IMPROVEMENT is only a Game at PROFIT and LOSS, between the *Gentlemen, Freeholders, Farmers, or Grasers*, of TWO COUNTIES, in which one Side LOSES as the other GAINS: and I believe that many Gentlemen whose Estates lie in midland or long improved Counties, neither do nor can lett a Number of their Farms at higher Rents than their Grandfathers lett them; the general Reason whereof is, that so many waste or ill-improved Lands have been better cultivated, as to prevent those Gentlemen from receiving their Shares of Advantage from the Increase of Foreign Trade.

But I think that the Inclosure of COMMON FIELDS, or the WHOLE of any COMMON that contributes toward the Maintenance of poor labouring Families, is *Ruinous in POLICY* and *Cruel in NATURE*; because the Motive to, and Consequence of such Inclosure, is, that some Avaritious Man may buy out all those valuable Families, from the little Inheritances to which they owe their Existence: for a PORTION of *Common Land*, or a RIGHT of *Commoning*, is a CERTAIN MEANS to half-maintain the Wife and Children of a labouring Man, as he can build or rent a Cottage, if he hath not one; and he is almost as certain of getting the other Half of a Family's Maintenance, by Labour, so that such Men do most of them marry, and each breed up *six, eight, ten, &c.* stout and hardy Children.

To small Portions of Land, Rights of Commoning, and Cottages, *England* is much indebted for the mighty Atchievements in War, which are recorded in the Annals of the *English* Nation; for the Men who were bred by those Means, being brave in Nature, hardily brought up, and inured to Toil, they had all the Requisites to being terrible in Arms, as various Nations have found them: and there being a *Common Field*, or *Common*, belonging to each or most of the Parishes in *England*, is a clear Proof of the Importance that such Families were anciently thought to be; as well as of the deep Wisdom of ancient Policy in giving the POOREST MEN a certain and unalienable INTEREST in their COUNTRY, for the COTTAGER'S Hut and small Portion of Land were as much to him, as a Castle and Barony were to A LORD.

By this wise Policy, the different Counties of *England* were well-peopled, cultivated by their proper Inhabitants, and protected from Tumults or Insults, excepting in Time of Civil Wars, Oppression, &c. for it was the true Interest of those hardy Men to live peaceably, and to guard the Country against all Invaders, because they had their *Wives and Children, Cottages and*
Land,

Land, TO DEFEND: and we do not find that SIX THOUSAND *half-armed half-starved* REBELS of another Nation got into the Heart of *England*, and out of it again, without more than a Skirmish with a few Squadrons of Cavalry; for that Number of such Enemies, instead of traversing County after County with Impunity, and alarming Half the Nation, would not have been a Breakfast for an ancient *Posse Comitatus*.

Certainly when this glaring Proof of NATIONAL WEAKNESS is considered, the WISDOM and GOODNESS of HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY in recommending from THE THRONE, the Establishment of a more useful MILITIA, must excite the deepest Sense of Gratitude in all HIS SUBJECTS: but unless a Stop be put to the INCLOSURE of COMMON FIELDS, &c. and to the DEPOPULATING PRACTICE of *letting* SEVERAL FARMS to ONE FARMER, the FARMERS and the COTTAGERS of *England* will be so diminished, that they can neither TILL the LAND nor GUARD the COUNTRY: and if those Gentlemen who have associated for the *Preservation of GAME*, would consider what A FINE GAME they are preparing for GOTHS or GAULS, I am persuaded they would be more attentive to the PRESERVATION of their COUNTRY, than of Hares and Partridges.

As the Matters here mentioned are of the greatest Importance to the Safety and Happiness of this Nation, it will be necessary to insert some Extracts from our ancient Laws concerning *Husbandry, Farms, Cottages, &c.* and the following Extract from a Law made in the Reign of K. Henry VII. contains a very good Specimen of *Old English* POLICY in regard to the RIGHT WAY of *improving* LANDS; for what is now called *Improving of Land*, was anciently called DEPOPULATION; and that, I fear, hath been, or will be the Consequence of a very considerable Part of our *modern Improvements*.

“ ITEM. For as much as it is to the King Our Sovereign Lord great
 “ Surety, and also to the Surety of this Realm of *England*, that the Isle of
 “ *Wight* in the County of *Scutb.* be well inhabited with *English* People, for
 “ the Defence as of his ancient Enemies of the Realm of *France*, as of
 “ other Parties; the which Isle is lately decayed of People, by Reason that
 “ many Towns and Villages been beaten down, and the Fields ditched and
 “ made Pastures for Beasts and Cattle: and also many Dwelling Places,
 “ Firms and Firmholds, have of late Time been used to be taken in one
 “ Man’s Hold and Hands, that of old Time were wont to be in many
 “ several Persons Holds and Hands, and many several Households kept in
 “ them, and thereby much People multiplied, and the same Isle thereby
 “ well inhabited, the which now by the Occasion aforesaid is desolate and
 “ not inhabited, but occupied with Beasts and Cattle; so that if hasty
 “ Remedy

“ Remedy be not provided, that Isle cannot be kept and defended, but
 “ will be open and ready to the King’s Enemies, which God forbid. For
 “ Remedy whereof it is ordained, &c. . . . *That no Man should take more*
 “ *than ONE FARM, which was not to be above the yearly Value of TEN*
 “ MARKS. Statute 4 Henry VII. Chap. 16.

By a general Law made in the same Year “ It was ordained, enacted,
 “ and established, that no Person, of what Estate, Degree, or Condition
 “ he be, that hath any House or Houses, that at any Time within
 “ Three Years passed, hath been or that now is, or that hereafter shall be
 “ lett for Farm with *Twenty Acres* of Land at least, or more, lying in
 “ Tillage and Husbandry, that the Owner and Owners of every such
 “ House and Houses and Land, to keep, sustain, and maintain Houses
 “ and Buildings upon the said Ground, and Land convenient and necessary
 “ for maintaining and upholding of the said Tillage and Husbandry, &c.
 “ *Upon Forfeiture of half the Value of the Issues and Profits of any such Lands,*
 “ *whereof the House or Houses be not so maintained and sustained. . . .* Statute
 4 Henry VII. Chap. 19.

L A W S Concerning C O T T A G E S.

“ It is also to be inquired of Cottages, that is to say, What Cottages
 “ and Curtelages * they hold, and by what Service, and how much they
 “ do pay by the Year for all their Cottages and Curtelages. — Statute
 4 Edward I. Section 10.

“ And where in divers Counties of this Realm, there hath been builded
 “ upon Commons, or waste Grounds, certain necessary Houses with
 “ Ground, under the Quantity of Three Acres, and not above Three
 “ Acres, inclosed to, and with the same; and in some Place there is
 “ inclosed a Garden, Orchard, or Pond, out of, or in such Wastes, or
 “ Grounds, which exceed not the Quantity of Two Acres, or thereabouts,
 “ which doth no Hurt, and yet is much Commodity to the Owner thereof
 “ and to others: be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, &c.
 “ *That such Houses shall remain, stand, and abide; but if any of them have more*
 “ *than Three Acres of Land inclosed, the Overplus thereof may belaid open by*
 “ *the Owner of the Waste.*” Stat. 3 and 4 Edward VI. Chap. 3. Sect. 5.

No Person shall build any Cottage for Habitation without laying FOUR
 ACRES of LAND to it, that is his or her own Freehold; upon Forfeiture of
 Ten Pounds, and Forty Shillings a Month so long as the Cottage shall be
 occupied.

* Pieces of Ground adjoining to Dwelling Houses.

occupied. — There shall not be any Inmate or more Families than One, in any one Cottage MADE OR TO BE MADE or erected; upon Forfeiture of *Ten Shillings* a Month by the Owner or Occupier of any such Cottage to the Lord of the Leet, so long as such Inmate shall dwell as aforesaid. — But this Statute shall not extend to

Cottages in Cities, Towns Corporate, ancient Boroughs, or Market Towns.

—— for Workmen in *Mineral Works, Coal Mines, Quarries*; or for *Brick or Tile-Makers*; if those Cottages are not more than One Mile from the Places of Work.

—— within One Mile of the Sea, or upon the Side of a navigable River, if they are inhabited by *Seamen, Ship-Builders, &c.*

—— made in Forests, Chaces, Warrens, or Parks, for the *Underkeepers* or *Warreners* thereof.

—— inhabited by *Herdsmen, Shepherds*, or poor, lame, sick, aged or impotent Persons.

—— which shall be for any just Respect decreed to continue, by the Justices of Assize or Justices of Peace in open Assizes or Quarter Sessions. — The Purport of Statute 31 *Elizabeth*, Chap. 7.

Many other of our ancient Laws concerning *Husbandry, Farms, Depopulation, &c.* are highly deserving of Attention, but these Extracts will be a sufficient Foundation for the following Observations; and the first Things to be taken Notice of are, the Causes of that Neglect of *Tillage* and Preference to *Pasture*, which occasioned the making of Law after Law, to prevent a Decay of HUSBANDRY.

The great and unequal Plenty of WOOL in *ENGLAND*, together with the superior Goodness of that which is grown in some particular Districts, are the chief CAUSES of a Neglect of *TILLAGE* and Preference to *PASTURE*; for the Want in other Countries of that necessary Commodity, creates a Demand for *English Wool*, and the unequal Goodness of it, causes a greater *Home* and *Foreign* Consumption of *some Sorts* than of *others*: in consequence whereof, the greatest Numbers of *Sheep* are bred in those Parts of *England*, where the *Grass, &c.* is of such a Nature as to give *Fineness, Length, &c.* to the WOOL of the *Sheep* which feed upon it; and from thence followed the DEPOPULATION of those LANDS which were most proper for *SHEEP*, “for where in some Towns Two Hundred Persons “were occupied and lived by their lawful Labours, now been there “occupied Two or Three Herdsmen.” Statute 4 *Henry VII.* Chap. 19.

Such DEPOPULATION of the COUNTRY, was indeed followed by an INCREASE of PEOPLE in those TOWNS where WOOL was manufactured, for the discarded *Farmers* and *Husbandmen* were driven there by Necessity; but

but **THREE EVILS** arose from such ALTERATIONS: for Part of the *Wool* being exported Raw, the Manufactory of it was lost to *ENGLAND*, so that those discarded *Farmers* and *Husbandmen* were deprived of *WORK*: the *COUNTRY* was also DEPRIVED of its PROPER GUARD, for there were only Two or Three *SHEPHERDS* occupied in a District of *LAND* which, when *TILLED*, had given Employment and Maintenance to Two Hundred *PEOPLE*; and the said Two Hundred People, or their Posterity, if not EXTIRPATED for want of MEANS to LIVE, were obliged to buy *Corn*, &c. from others, instead of growing it for themselves, which caused frequent DEARTHES of *CORN* and *VICTUALS*.

THREE such great and national EVILS as these, were enough to alarm that wise Prince, *K. Henry VII.* and a Remedy was accordingly provided for them, by the two excellent Laws before extracted from; which Laws were enforced by several others made in the Reigns of *K. Henry VIII.* *Q. Elizabeth*, &c. in the latter of which Reigns they were declared to be, *very good and profitable Laws* (5th *Elizabeth* Chap. 2^d.): and though King *Henry VIII.* was a very extravagant Prince, and run great Lengths in many Respects, yet, he attended to MEANS proper for preventing the NATIONAL STRENGTH from going to DECAY; for by a Law made in the 27th Year of his Reign, Chap. 22^d. it was enacted, That for every Fifty, Forty, or Thirty ACRES of *LAND*, there should be builded, One sufficient TENEMENT mete for AN HONEST MAN to DWELL IN.

But the said Law did not extend to all *England*, because the several Parts thereof are so unequally fertile, that Fifty Acres of *Land* in some Counties produce more than One Hundred Acres in others; and therefore the building of Farm-Houses as aforesaid, was restricted to the Thirteen rich Counties hereafter named, and to the Isle of *Wight*, all of which are specified in the last Section of that Law, viz.

<i>Lincoln,</i>	<i>Rutland,</i>	<i>Oxford,</i>
<i>Nottingham,</i>	<i>Northampton,</i>	<i>Berks,</i>
<i>Leicester,</i>	<i>Bedford,</i>	<i>Worcester,</i>
<i>Warwick,</i>	<i>Buckingham,</i>	<i>Hertford,</i>
<i>Cambridge, . . . and, the Isle of Wight.</i>		

In regard to COTTAGERS, it appears by a Statute made in the Fourth Year of *K. Edward I. A. D. 1276*, before extracted from, That they were anciently of Consideration, and Part of the Constitution; in which Lights they continued to be looked upon, in the Reign of *K. Edw. VI.* and Cottages built upon WASTE-LANDS, without Consent of the Owners thereof, were then deemed to be NECESSARY Houses: for the Support of which,

which, THREE ACRES of LAND were allowed to be and remain inclosed; so that instead of *Fine* or *Punishment*, for *Trespass* or *Intrusion*, those COTTAGERS acquired a RIGHT to their TENEMENTS; the EQUITY of which Measure is manifested, by declaring that those Tenements did NO HURT, and the GOOD POLICY thereof is shewn, by saying they were MUCH COMMODITY to the OWNERS and to OTHERS.

The Statute 31 Elizabeth, Chap. 7. hath this forbidding Title, “ *An Act against the Erecting and Maintaining of COTTAGES*,” so that it seems as if intended to prevent the Increase and Continuance of them; instead whereof, it is an *increasing* LAW under a *forbidding* TITLE; for as Two Families were not thereby allowed to live in One Cottage, new Cottages must necessarily be built for the unhoused Families: and those new Cottages were to be such as afforded the Families which lived in them competent Means of subsisting by HONEST INDUSTRY, for FOUR ACRES of LAND were to be annexed to each COTTAGE; excepting to Cottages in Towns, &c. and Cottages which were inhabited by People who worked in Mines, or were employed in Seafaring Business, &c. as mentioned in the preceding Abstract of that Statute.

By this admirable Policy, Husbandmen and other common People were kept dispersed all over the Country, so that each Neighbourhood must necessarily have a competent Number of them; and such of those Country People as could not be Employed in Husbandry Business, were in a Manner obliged to come into Cities or Towns, because they could not be harboured in Cottages; for the Fine of Ten Shillings a Month to the Lord of the Leet, was a Bar to such harbouring of unemployed People, as it was thereby made the Interest of Leet-Lords to put the Law in Execution; and this Prudence of PREVENTION, as Sir M. Hale aptly expresses it, did not only keep many common People from falling into evil Ways, but forced them, as it were, into an honest and profitable Course of Life.

From this brief Account of the ANCIENT POLICY of ENGLAND in regard to Husbandry, Farms, Cottages, &c. it is easy to see how the PEOPLE thereof came to be Strong at HOME, and Formidable ABROAD; for they did not only preserve the same comparative Superiority of NAVAL POWER over OTHER NATIONS, that hath been done in later Times, but also an answerable Superiority of INTERIOR STRENGTH: so that the NAVY ROYAL was then only an Out-Guard, though the strongest in Europe, and if by adverse Fortune or contrary Winds, it was worsted or eluded, the MAIN-GUARD WAS AT HOME; but MODERN POLICY teaches, that the ancient Out-Guard is the MAIN-GUARD; the VERITY of which Doctrine is MANIFESTED, by Six Thousand REBELS getting
to

to Derby, and by a general Uneasiness about FRENCH flat-bottomed BOATS.

Thus hath ENGLAND been growing WEAKER, while, according to the Rules of Estimating Things of this Sort, She ought to have grown STRONGER, even to the DOUBLING of Her ancient INTERIOR STRENGTH; for Her ordinary substituted Guard in Time of PEACE, is about Eighteen Thousand LAND FORCES, and if the said Guard be Rated at Forty Thousand MEN in Time of WAR, it will be too high in general: whereas Her natural and constant Guard in ancient Times was about ONE MILLION OF MEN, equally dispersed over the Country, which made Her Invulnerable at Home and Terrible ABROAD; so that upon a fair State of these Matters, it seems as if ENGLAND, with a greater Number of PEOPLE, is not ONE Twentieth PART so well prepared for INTERIOR DEFENCE, as SHE was Four Centuries ago.

This shews the Fallacy of estimating the Strength of a COUNTRY by the Number of INHABITANTS, for the Real Strength thereof doth not consist in the Number of Men who LIVE THERE, but in those who DEFEND IT; and the SOURCE of that astonishing Disparity between the ONE and the OTHER in ENGLAND, is,

REMOVING Multitudes of PEOPLE,

FROM

OUR Natural and Fixed BASIS, LAND,

THE Artificial and Fluctuating BASIS, TRADE.

For the doing of which, I cannot find any one sound Reason, even of a Commercial Nature, but on the Contrary, very strong Commercial Reasons for pursuing other Measures, in this Respect: and as to the INTERIOR WEAKNESS that hath been brought upon ENGLAND by the said Means, the glaring and recent Proofs thereof may well excite the deepest Concern in all thinking People: because it is natural to conclude from thence, that the PEOPLE OF THIS NATION are very much degenerated, and it would be well if there was less Foundation for thinking so; however, the NAVAL FORCES have behaved well, where they had brave and humane Commanders; and the Battles of Dettingen, Fontenoy, Lafeldt, and

Culloden vouch for the LAND FORCES, though they were not all crowned with Victory.

So that DEGENERACY will not account for the *interior Weakness* of ENGLAND, any more than DEPRAVITY OF MANNERS will account for there being so many *Thieves, Prostitutes, and Beggars*; and as I have already shewn that WRONG POLICY in regard to the POOR, is the superior and general Cause of the ONE, I shall now shew that WRONG POLICY is the same in respect to the OTHER: in order to which, it will be necessary to make a State of the Consequences of LETTING *Five Hundred Acres of LAND* to ONE Farmer, instead of keeping it in TEN Farms, as directed by Stat. 27 Henry VIII. Chap. 22; because all Persons of plain Sense and common Observation will then be able to judge for themselves, as it is fitting they should do, in Matters which so nearly concern People of every Degree; and the said State is as followeth:

1. The LOSS of CERTAIN MEANS to Continue and Maintain NINE FAMILIES in Existence and Substantiality.

2. The DEMOLITION of NINE Dwelling Houses; and consequently, a great Loss of LABOUR to Carpenters, Bricklayers, Smiths, Wheelwrights, Sadlers, Woollen Manufacturers, &c. who would otherwise have been Employed in Repairing the said Houses, and in furnishing more Implements of Husbandry, &c. than will be wanted by the Farmer who RENTS the whole 500 Acres of LAND.

3. As the Number of Families which are to subsist by TRADE, will be NINE more than they were before; it is most likely, that there will be a Want of Employment, either for the Nine DISCARDED Farmers and their Families, or for an equal Number of People who did before subsist by Means of Trade; because nothing but an Increase of Foreign Trade can prevent such a Want: and as the INCREASE of our ANNUAL EXPORTS to THREE TIMES what they were EIGHTY YEARS ago, hath not been sufficient to Employ all the People who cannot subsist by Means of LAND, exclusive of those who have gone to settle in the BRITISH COLONIES; the most probable Consequence of REMOVING NINE Farmers Families from LAND to TRADE, is, that NINE FAMILIES will be thereby brought upon their PARISHES, or be obliged to Transport themselves to another COUNTRY.

But I will suppose, that the Nine DISCARDED Farmers and their Families neither do go out of ENGLAND, nor oblige any other Families of Trading People to leave it (though I must at the same Time observe, that it is a Supposition much against Probability); in which Case, the Consequences may be as follow:

4. THREE

4. **THREE** of *those* FAMILIES may probably *thrive* in TRADE, but an Increase of People is not to be expected from them; for according to some Calculations which were made by Mr Gregory King about Sixty Years ago, from the Registers of *Births, Burials, Poll-Tax Books, &c.* and inserted in Dr Davenant's ESSAY upon the *Ballance* of TRADE, there was not at that Time any *Increase of People* from the CITIES and TOWNS of ENGLAND, upon a *general Average*: and as neither TEA nor GENEVA were then commonly drank by the *middle or lower* Classes of People, as they have been of late Years, it may well be concluded, *that the Inhabitants of CITIES and TOWNS do not, upon the Whole, keep up their own NUMBERS*; for the greater Part of substantial Tradesmen's Families living plentifully, and being much confined by their Business, the Parents do not generally transmit their Stature and Strength to their Children; so that after *Three or Four* diminishing Successions, the WEALTH of *Three or Four* TRADING FAMILIES generally comes to ONE Son or Daughter; and therefore it may readily be admitted, that TWO of the *THREE Farmers Families* which prospered in Trade, will be EXTINCT in *One Hundred Years*.

5. **THREE** of *those* FAMILIES may be supposed to get their Living by *the Drudgery* of TRADE, in the Capacity of Manufacturers or common labouring People; and as they will not have any CERTAIN MEANS toward Maintaining *Wives and Children*, but must shift about from Place to Place, as Trade fluctuates; their *poor and unsettled Condition* will, in a Course of Time, diminish *their Numbers*, as much as LUXURY and the *Want of due EXERCISE* diminished the **THREE** prosperous Trading Families; so that at the End of One Century, it is most likely there will be only ONE of *these THREE poor Families* REMAINING.

The WASTE of PEOPLE in LONDON hath been about Five Hundred THOUSAND in Seventy-eight Years, *since the Plague finally ceased here*; and as that is nearly Five Families out of Six, the above supposed PROGRESS of EXTINCTION is rather less than, I fear, it hath been in Reality, upon a *general Average* for all the CITIES and MARKET-TOWNS in ENGLAND; because Freeholders and Farmers do frequently put their Sons to Trade, and marry their Daughters to Tradesmen; but Tradesmen do not so frequently breed their Sons to Husbandry, nor Freeholders or Farmers so frequently marry Tradesmen's Daughters; and the same may be said in regard to Men and Women-Servants, for many of both go from the Country to live in neighbouring Towns, but few of them go from Towns to live with Freeholders or Farmers: so that the WASTE of PEOPLE in TOWNS is gradually repaired by *those Means*, and the INCREASE of PEOPLE in RURAL PARISHES is thereby made greater, according to the REGISTERS of BIRTHS and BURIALS, than it is in FACT;

for

for those migrating Country People are registered in the Former but not in the Latter

6. The other THREE of those NINE Families may possibly be indulged so far as to let them build Cottages, near where their Forefathers lived; by the Help of which, and of Hedging, Ditching, Plowing, &c. they may probably continue for many Generations, if they do not meddle with HARES or PARTRIDGES; but then they are poor base Swains driven out of Heart, as Lord Bacon phrases it: and if a Pair of such People are very prolific, their Sons and Daughters generally lead single Lives, as Servants in Farmers or other Families; for Marriage disqualifies them for domestic Service, and this is the Occasion of many CHANCE Children, for which both Father and Mother generally take to Flight; so that upon the Whole, more cannot be expected from these THREE Families of SUCH COTTAGERS, than that they will keep up their ORIGINAL NUMBERS.

THE NATIONAL ACCOUNT of these NINE discarded FARMERS Families, at the Expiration of One Hundred Years from the Time they were driven from LAND to TRADE, will, according to the before mentioned most favourable Supposition and Inferences drawn from it, then be as followeth:

The Three Families which prospered in TRADE, REDUCED to ONE FAMILY.

The Three Families which lived by the Drudgery of TRADE, REDUCED to ONE FAMILY.

The Three Families which subsisted by the Help of COTTAGES, and the Drudgery of HUSBANDRY, ALL EXISTING.

So that instead of NINE substantial FAMILIES which had PROPERTY, and STRENGTH to DEFEND IT, there will REMAIN ONLY FIVE FAMILIES. — ONE of them ENERVATED by LUXURY, &c. and the other FOUR so POOR, that scarcely any Thing can happen to their Disadvantage; they will therefore be more likely to fish in troubled Waters, than to endeavour at stilling them, for Men who have nothing to hope for, nor nothing to fear, are generally as indifferent about CHANGES of MEN or MEASURES, as about a CHANGE of the MOON; and though they may do well, when primed with Roast-Beef and Oatmeal, yet, SOBRIETY puts them in Mind of the Reasons for priming them, and then a Contempt for such Time-serving Generosity, or a Want of Interest in their Country, defeat the Donors Intentions.

It is therefore almost as reasonable to think of bringing a DEAD MAN TO LIFE, as to think of REVIVING the STEADY FORTITUDE and WELL-GROUNDED PATRIOTISM of their Forefathers, in MEN who have

have not MEANS to support EITHER; for such People know well enough, that *their* LOT *will be* to WORK for TEN PENCE, &c. a Day; whereas if they are rendered incapable of Labour, they have neither LAND NOR HOUSE TO COMFORT THEM; but must go to a *Parish Workhouse*, and have their *Wives* and *Children* subjected to hard Treatment, if not driven to Vagabondry.

Such are the Consequences of LETTING *Five Hundred Acres* of LAND to ONE FARMER, instead of keeping the same in TEN or more DISTINCT FARMS, as was directed by Statute 27 Henry VIII. Chap. 22; and that *the said* LOSSES, *together with* OTHERS arising from the INCLOSURE of COMMON FIELDS and COMMONS, *have not been* LESS IN FACT than I *have represented* UPON PAPER, the WASTE of PEOPLE IN LONDON too plainly SHEWS: for the Extinction of FIVE FAMILIES out of SIX, in less than ONE HUNDRED YEARS, is a sad Proof that most of the FARMERS and COUNTRY COTTAGERS FAMILIES which have been Removed from LAND to TRADE, either are, or must in a Course of Years be EXTINCT, or LOST to ENGLAND: but as it is a prevailing Opinion, that the WASTE of PEOPLE IN LONDON, is REPAIRED BY THE INCREASE of PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY, and the great Numbers of poor unemployed People give Reason for thinking so, it will be necessary to pursue this Matter further; for I fear there is a dangerous Deception in it, and that this SHEW of INCREASE, is caused by the REMOVAL of PEOPLE FROM LAND, *faster than they can be* EMPLOYED IN, *or are* WASTED BY TRADE.

By Stat. 13 and 14 Charles II. Ch. 10. Sect. 1. Every FIRE-HEARTH was charged with A DUTY of TWO SHILLINGS A YEAR; and by the 17th Section thereof, no Person who, by Reason of his Poverty or the Smallness of his Estate, was exempted from the TAXES toward CHURCH and POOR, was to be charged with the *Duty upon Fire-Hearths*.

The DUTY UPON HOUSES, *before the present Year* 1758, was TWO SHILLINGS A YEAR for each HOUSE, *exclusive of the* DUTY on WINDOWS according to their Number, where it exceeded NINE; and such Persons as were, on Account of their Poverty, exempted from paying the TAXES toward CHURCH and POOR, were also exempted from the *Duty upon Houses*.

Now this double Correspondence between those Two DUTIES, in regard to the RATES thereof, and to the Persons EXEMPTED from paying them, is a very good Foundation to build upon; for if the Number of TAXABLE HOUSHOLDERS IN ENGLAND was greater *Seventy Years ago*, than the same hath been of late Years, it will incontestably prove, A DECREASE OF SUBSTANTIAL PEOPLE.

The Number of HOUSES in ENGLAND and WALES, at Lady-day 1688, was ONE MILLION One Hundred and Fifty-two THOUSAND Eight Hundred and Ninety-seven, according to a Manuscript Abstract formed by the Accounts of the DUTY on *Hearth*s : but according to another Abstract that seems to have been compiled about five or six Years after, upon a more accurate Examination of those Accounts, if not from a new Survey, the Numbers of HOUSES in England and Wales were as followeth :

The Numbers of HOUSES.

	<i>Taxable.</i>	<i>Poor.</i>	<i>Totals of both.</i>
In Cities and Market-Towns	249,380	65,096	314,476
In Rural Parishes	589,314	196,279	785,593
The Totals	838,694	261,375	1,100,069

The Number of TAXABLE HOUSES about *Seventy Years* ago was 838,694.

The present Number of Houses charged with the *House-Tax* is about 690,000

The *Decrease* in about *Seventy Years*, according to that Abstract, is 148,694

How near Exactness the said Abstract may be, I cannot pretend to say, but that there hath been a great Decrease in the Number of TAXABLE HOUSES in ENGLAND within the *aforesaid Time*, is, in effect, acknowledged by the highest Authority, in the following Words :

“ And whereas the REVENUE arising by the said several and respective
 “ RATES and DUTIES upon HOUSES hath for *some Years past* GREATLY
 “ DECREASED, and the same is *still likely to DIMINISH.* ”
 Preamble to Stat. 20 K. George II. for increasing the DUTIES upon Houses and Windows.

Thus do the highest Authority, the preceding Abstract, and the foregoing State of the Consequences of letting TEN FARMS to ONE FARMER, all concur in proving A DECREASE in the NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIAL PEOPLE ; and that the said Decrease hath not been caused by A DECAY OF TRADE, is undeniably proved by the EXPORTS OF ENGLAND being THREE TIMES AS GREAT as they were *Seventy Years ago* ; as well as by the great Increase of *Westminster, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Liverpoole, Manchester, Leeds, Halifax, Sheffield,* and many other Trading Towns of England, within that Time ; so that the Decrease of substantial People, whether less or more than One Hundred and Forty-eight THOUSAND FAMILIES, must have been chiefly owing to the MONOPOLIZING OF FARMS, and the INCLOSURE OF COMMON FIELDS, &c.

These

These Matters shew by what Means the NATURAL GUARD of ENGLAND hath been weakened, for according to them, the said Guard is less by *One Hundred and Forty-eight THOUSAND MEN* than it was *Seventy Years* ago; because there were then 148,000 more Families which had either PROPERTY IN, or CERTAIN MEANS OF MAINTENANCE FROM the LANDS of ENGLAND, than are now Maintained by the like Means: and as such MONOPOLIES AND INCLOSURES have been making for 200 Years past, I am of Opinion, that the natural Guard of ENGLAND hath been thereby diminished about *Three Hundred THOUSAND MEN*; whereby I mean, that the Number of Families which had Property in, or certain Means of Maintenance from the Lands of England Two Hundred Years ago, exceeded the present Number of such Families by 300,000.

I may possibly be censured by very respectable Persons, for publishing such an Opinion, but I cannot help thinking it would be wicked in me to conceal the Growth of such a National Evil; and as Sir *William Petty*, Dr *Davenant*, Mr *Gregory King*, &c. have by their Calculations created a general Belief that THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND ARE UPON THE INCREASE, it is high Time the Truth should be known: for DISEASES must be discovered before REMEDIES can be applied, and if any Person can make it appear that my Opinion is ill-founded, I shall be most heartily glad; but before the same be undertaken, it will be expedient to well consider the following Matters, and to speak explicitly as well as conclusively upon the several Queries thereunto annexed.

F I R S T.

“ For as much as divers and sundry Persons of the King’s Subjects of
 “ this Realm, to whom God of His Goodness hath disposed great Plenty
 “ of moveable Substance, now of late within few Years have daily studied,
 “ practised, and invented Ways and Means how they might accumulate
 “ and gather together in few Hands as well great Multitude of FARMS, as
 “ great Plenty of CATTLE, and in especial SHEEP, putting such
 “ LANDS as they can get, to PASTURE, and not to TILLAGE:
 “ whereby they have not only PULLED DOWN CHURCHES AND
 “ TOWNS, and enhanced the old Rates of the Rents of the Possessions
 “ of this Realm, or else brought it to such excessive Fines, *that no poor Man*
 “ *is able to meddle with it*; but also have RAISED AND ENHANCED
 “ THE PRICES of all Manner of Corn, Cattle, Wool, Pigs, Geese, Hens,
 “ Chickens, Eggs, and such other, almost double above the Prices, which
 “ have been accustomed: By Reason whereof A MARVELLOUS
 “ MULTITUDE and Number of the PEOPLE OF THIS REALM be
 “ not

“ not able to provide *Meat, Drink, and Cloaths* necessary for themselves
 “ their *Wives and Children*, but be so discouraged with MISERY, AND
 “ POVERTY, that they fall daily to THEFT, ROBBERY, and other
 “ Inconvenience, or pitifully DIE FOR HUNGER AND COLD. And
 “ as it is thought by the King's most humble and loving Subjects, one of
 “ the greatest Occasions, that moveth and provoketh those greedy and
 “ covetous People so to accumulate and keep in their Hands such great
 “ Portions and Parties of the Grounds and Lands of this Realm *from the*
 “ *occupying of the poor Husbandmen*, and so to use it in *Pasture* and not in
 “ *Tillage*, is only the great Profit that cometh of *Sheep*, which now be
 “ come into a few Persons Hands of this Realm, in respect of the whole
 “ Number of the King's Subjects, that some have TWENTY-FOUR
 “ THOUSAND, some *Twenty Thousand*, some *Ten Thousand*, some *Six*
 “ *Thousand*, some *Five Thousand*, and some more and some less, by the
 “ which a good *Sheep* for Victual, that was accustomed to be sold for *Two*
 “ *Shillings Four Pence*, or *Three Shillings* at the most, is now sold for *Six*
 “ *Shillings*, or *Five*, or *Four Shillings* at the least: And a Stone of
 “ CLOTHING-WOOL, that in some Shire of this Realm was accustomed
 “ to be sold for *Eighteen Pence* or *Twenty Pence*, is now sold for *Four*
 “ *Shillings*, or *Three Shillings Four Pence* at the least: and in some Countries
 “ [Counties] where it hath been sold for *Two Shillings Four Pence*, or *Two*
 “ *Shillings Eight Pence*, or *Three Shillings* at the most; it is now sold for
 “ *Five Shillings*, or *Four Shillings Eight Pence* at the least. And so arraised
 “ in every Part of this Realm. WHICH THINGS THUS USED, be
 “ principally to the high Displeasure of ALMIGHTY GOD, to the Decay
 “ of the Hospitality of this Realm, to the DIMINISHING OF THE
 “ KING'S PEOPLE, and to the LET [HINDERANCE] of the
 “ CLOTH-MAKING, whereby many POOR PEOPLE hath been
 “ accustomed to be set on WORK: and in Conclusion, if Remedy be not
 “ found, it may TURN TO THE UTTER DESTRUCTION AND
 “ DESOLATION OF THIS REALM, WHICH GOD DEFEND.”
 Statute 25 Henry VIII. Chap. 13.

From this Affecting and Prophetic Preamble, I deduce the following Fundamental Principle,

That the WOOL and WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES of ENGLAND, as the same have been managed, were and now are great CAUSES OF DEPOPULATION within this REALM.

S E C O N D.

The Wars between the TWO FAMILIES of York and Lancaster, together with other Civil Commotions, and the Foreign Wars in which
 ENGLAND

ENGLAND was engaged, between the Reign of K. *Edward III.* when the **WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES** were first established here, and the Reign of K. *Henry VII.* when those **TWO FAMILIES** were united in that Prince and his Queen, did undoubtedly prevent the aforesaid **CAUSES** from effecting any considerable **DEPOPULATION** during that Interval of Time: for the Retrospection of Statute 4 *Henry VII.* Chap. 19. in regard to decayed Houses of Husbandry, is confined to **THREE YEARS**; to which very Time, the Statute 27 *Henry VIII.* Chap. 22. made for more effectually preventing such Decay, doth also go back; so that there cannot be any Doubt about the Certainty of that Prevention to the Year 1486, when K. *Henry VII.* came to the Crown; and the said **CAUSES** were further prevented, by the following Statutes and the steady Tempers, &c. of King *Henry VII.* and K. *Henry VIII.* from effecting any great **DEPOPULATION** before the Year 1546, when the latter of those Princes died.

Statutes 4 *Henry VII.* Chapters 19 and 16. whereby the monopolizing of **FARMS**, and the converting of *Tillage LAND* to *Pasture*, were forbidden; upon Forfeiture of **HALF the Rents and Profits** arising from the *Farms* so monopolized, and from the *Lands* so converted: also, by Stat. 27 *Henry VIII.* Chap. 22. whereby the said Forfeitures were all given to the King, as the *Lands* holden immediately of other Lords, continued to be monopolized and kept in *Pasture*; because, by the former Statute, the aforesaid Forfeitures from *Lands* not holden immediately of the King, accrued to the respective Lords thereof, who did not execute that Law.

Statute 25 *Henry VIII.* Chap. 13. whereby no Person was allowed to keep more than *Two Thousand SHEEP*, excepting in some particular Cases there mentioned; upon Forfeiture of *Two Shillings and Four Pence* for every *SHEEP* above that Number, one half of which Forfeitures belonged to the King.

Statute 27 *Henry VIII.* Chap. 22. whereby it was enacted, that for every *Fifty, Forty, or Thirty ACRES* of *LAND*, in the Counties of *Lincoln, Nottingham, Leicester, Warwick, Rutland, Northampton, Bedford, Buckingham, Oxford, Berks, Worcester, Hertford, Cambridge*, or in the *Isle of Wight*, there should be builded *One sufficient Tenement mete for an honest Man to dwell in*; upon Forfeiture, to the King, his Heirs, &c. of a *Moiety* of the *Rents and Profits* arising from *LANDS* as aforesaid upon which such **TENEMENTS** were not built, &c.

T H I R D.

The *Wool* and *Woollen Manufacturies* of **ENGLAND** begun to cause much **POVERTY**, and by Consequence **DEPOPULATION**, about the Year 1550, as appears by the following Extract from a Treatise written

by Way of Dialogue, published in the Year 1581, and dedicated to Queen Elizabeth, by W. S. Gentleman.

“ — But this I think in my Mind, that if that Kind of Inclosing
 “ do as much increase in Thirty Years to come, as it hath done in Thirty
 “ Years past [*from 1550 to 1580*] it may come to the great DESOLATION
 “ AND WEAKING OF THE STRENGTH OF THIS REALM, which
 “ *is more to be feared than DEARTH*, and I think it to be the most
 “ Occasion of any Thing ye spake yet, of these wild and unhappy Uproars
 “ that hath been among us, for by Reason of these INCLOSURES many
 “ Subjects have no GROUND to LIVE UPON, as they had before-time,
 “ and Occupations be not always set a work all alike, and therefore the
 “ PEOPLE STILL INCREASING, and THEIR LIVINGS
 “ DIMINISHING, it must needs come to pass that a great Part of the
 “ People shall be idle and lack living, for Hunger is a bitter Thing to
 “ bear. Wherefore they must needs when they lack, murmur against them
 “ that have Plenty, and so stir these Tumults.” . . . Page 19. — The said
 Treatise was lately Reprinted for C. Marsh in Round Court, Westminster, and
 the Letters W. S. are explained into William Shakespeares, upon a slender
 Foundation; though I think that the Performance is worthy of Shakespeares,
 or of any Man who ever wrote upon Trade.

This Extract shews, that ENGLAND is indebted to her WOOL and
 WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES, *as they have been managed*, for the numerous
 POOR which her substantial Inhabitants have had to Maintain, in
 Succession, above 150 Years; and it is a good Foundation for saying, that
 the MANUFACTURY of WOOL doth not give EMPLOYMENT and MAINTENANCE
 to so many PEOPLE, as the converting of LAND from TILLAGE to PASTURE takes
 EMPLOYMENT and MAINTENANCE from: for there could not have been such
 Uproars and Tumults among common People, in the Reign of so wise and
 well-served a Princess as Queen Elizabeth, if the MEANS of living by LAND
 had not been faster diminished by Inclosures for SHEEP, than the MEANS of
 living by TRADE were increased by the Extension of the WOOLLEN
 MANUFACTURIES; and the universal Provision that was made for the
 POOR of ENGLAND in the 43^d Year of Q. Elizabeth, seems to me
 to be a clear Proof of the Matter; because the common People whose LANDS
 were INCLOSED do not appear to have been sent to those Towns, &c. in
 which Woollen Manufacturies were then carried on, or even to have been at
 Liberty to remove out of their own Parishes; for if they begged elsewhere,
 as in travelling to seek for Work such People must oft be driven to do,
 the Statute 39 Elizabeth, Chap. 6. made ROGUES of them, and they
 were

• Monopolizing of FARMS, and converting Arable Land into Pasture for SHEEP.

were to be **WHIPPED**; nay, even poor ship-wrecked Seamen were to be so treated, if they begged without Testimonials from Justices of Peace, and they were thereby only protected till they arrived, by the direct Roads and in the Times limited, at the Places of their Dwelling or Birth; so that the said Statute was in Reality a Prohibition for Labouring People to Travel, as I have already called it.

F O U R T H.

As the Time of beginning to Remove People from **LAND** to **TRADE**, appears by the aforefaid Extract to have been about the Year 1550, and the inferior Sort of People so removed, were confined to their several Parishes; the Consequences thereof must necessarily have been, A **DECREASE** in the **STRENGTH** of those **PEOPLE**, *for want of such* **STRONG** and **HEALTHFUL EXERCISE** *as the Business of* **HUSBANDRY** *used to afford them*; and a **DECREASE** in their **NUMBERS**, *for want of the former* **CERTAIN MEANS** TO MAINTAIN **WIVES** AND **CHILDREN**: so that partly by those Causes, and partly by the Dejection *that* **POVERTY** *and a Remembrance of* **BETTER TIMES** *produces*, those People did undoubtedly diminish fast enough to make Room for new Comers from **LAND** to **TRADE**, as **INCLOSURES** increased; for if they had not done so, there must have been a great Surplus of common People before the Year 1640, and a far greater than can be accounted for by the then Infant Settlements of *Virginia, Nova Scotia, &c.* and as to the State of our Foreign Trade, from the Death of *Q. Elizabeth* to the Year 1640, the **ANNUAL EXPORTS** amounted in Value to about Two **MILLIONS** of **POUNDS Sterling** for the whole Time, according to the best Information I have met with; but *East-India* **LUXURIES** were creeping into *England* all that while, and may well be supposed to have taken Employment from as many *English* Families as went to the *American* **COLONIES**; so that upon the Whole, I am of Opinion, that the **LOSSES** of **PEOPLE**, by *Trade, Religious Persecutions, Colonies, Poverty, and the Plague in London,* to the Year 1640, were not more than repaired, by the People who were driven from **LAND** to **TRADE**, before the Year 1641.

F I F T H.

The Civil Wars, the unsettled State of Government, the Interruptions thereby caused to the Manufacturies and Foreign Trade of *England*, the Increase of Trade in *France* and *Holland*, and the Poverty of Circumstances produced by one or other of those Means, between the Years 1640 and 1660, may reasonably be thought to have made the **STOCK** of **ENGLISH PEOPLE** *One Hundred THOUSAND LESS* at the End of those Twenty Years, than it otherwise would have been; and yet there was not a Want of
People

People when K. *Charles II.* came to the Crown, but on the contrary, more than could be employed; so that it might be thought, *the aforesaid Losses of People were repaired*; but the Fact was, that *the MEANS of MAINTENANCE by LAND AND TRADE*, were so much *diminished* in those Twenty Years, as to DEPRIVE of EMPLOYMENT, MORE PEOPLE than were either DEPRIVED of LIFE by the *Civil Wars*, or obliged to leave *England*, &c.

S I X T H.

The Constitutional Form of Government being happily restored to *ENGLAND*, by the Accession of K. *Charles the Second*, those Losses which the Nation had suffered in Twenty Years then last past, might have been in some Degree repaired, by a Pursuit of wise Commercial Measures; but instead thereof, *FRENCH LUXURIES* were countenanced, and the *Silks, Linens, Wines, &c.* of that Country were permitted to be imported into *England* upon the Payment of *very low DUTIES*, while on the other Hand, *ENGLISH Woollen Manufactures, &c.* were in effect PROHIBITED in *France*; so that *England* did not only lose a great Part of her *Woollen Manufacturies*, but ALL her *Linen Manufactory*, and some lesser Manufacturies, by which GREAT LOSSES the MEANS of MAINTENANCE by TRADE in *England* must certainly have been so far diminished, as to deprive at least One Hundred THOUSAND FAMILIES OF BREAD; for the strongest of our *American Colonies* were peopled from their Mother-Country, between the Years 1660 and 1688; Multitudes of *English Families* did likewise go to *Ireland, Holland, &c.* and after all those Evacuations, there still remained above Two Hundred THOUSAND poor unemployed People in *England*, as I have already observed.

S E V E N T H.

The LOSS OF PEOPLE by the Plague in *London*, from the Year 1601 to the Year 1679, when happily for this Nation it finally ceased here, was One Hundred Eighty-eight THOUSAND Five Hundred and Seventy-one, as appears by the Bills of Mortality annexed to Observations on the Growth, &c. of *London*, by *Corbyn Morris, Esq;* and the Loss of People by the said Means, between the Years 1550 and 1601, was probably Fifty Thousand; so that the whole Loss thereby must certainly have amounted to more than Two Hundred THOUSAND PEOPLE.

E I G H T H.

The happy Accession of K. *William* and Q. *Mary*, being immediately followed by wise Measures in regard to Commerce, as well as in other Respects, a Stop was thereby put to the DEPOPULATION OF *ENGLAND*, for Want of Means to live; but the POLICY of REMOVING PEOPLE FROM LAND TO TRADE, still continued; a
temporary

temporary Reason for which might be, the Want of People to carry on the then increased Trade, by *Woollen, Silk, and Metallic Manufacturies, Corn, Mines, &c.* and to carry on the then general War against the *French*; but as many Persons may doubt the Fact, it will be necessary to shew that the said Policy was continued, which I think is plainly done by what follows:

The Number of unemployed poor People in *England*, a few Years before the Revolution, was full 200,000; and the whole ANNUAL EXPORTS from *England*, including *Plantation and East-India Goods*, amounted in Value to about TWO MILLIONS OF POUNDS Sterling; but the said annual Exports increased to above SIX MILLIONS OF POUNDS, by the Year 1697, and have continued increasing, upon a general Average, ever since; as will appear by the following Extracts; so far as is necessary for the present Purpose.

The VALUE of the Annual Exports from ENGLAND in Three Years, viz.
Years. Value in Pounds Sterling. Authorities.

1697 . . Six Millions 361 Thousand 108 . . Sir F. Brewster on Trade, p. 113.

1699 . . Six Millions 788 Thousand 166 . . Dr Davenant's Rep. P. II. p. 71.

1703 . . Six Millions 644 Thousand 103 . . The same p. 43.

The Value of the ENGLISH Manufactures, &c.

then annually Exported was above £ 5,000,000

From which deduct the Value of the Annual and

like Exports before 1688, about 1,500,000

And the then Increase in the Value of the Annual

Exports will be 3,500,000

From which deduct for the Value of the Materials 1,500,000

And there will remain for Manufacture, Labour, &c. 2,000,000

Which Sum, at £5 per Head, will Maintain Four Hundred

THOUSAND, Men, Women, and Children 400,000

The Increased Home-Consumption of English Manufactures,

caused by high Duties laid on Foreign ones, especially on those

of France, in the Reign of K. William, might probably maintain 50,000

The Loss of Men, by War in that Reign, in Ireland, Flanders,

or at Sea, was probably 50,000

The Total Number of People Employed by an Increase of TRADE,

or left in WAR, will then be 500,000

Whereof there are accounted for by poor unemployed

People in England, Anno 1688 200,000

Whereof there may be accounted for by common

People from Scotland, Ireland, France, &c. 50,000

So that there Remain to be accounted for, Fifty Thousand FAMILIES

of five Persons each, or, 250,000

And I know of only one Way to account for the said Fifty Thousand Families, which is, by there being that Number of Families REMOVED FROM LAND TO TRADE, either by *Monopolizing of FARMS, Inclosing of COMMON FIELDS and COMMONS*, or by *Unhousing of COUNTRY COTTAGERS*.

According to the DISPROPORTION between the Number of *Burials* and *Christenings* in LONDON, upon a general Average for *Seventy-eight Years* from 1680 to 1757, this City hath had an annual Supply of EIGHT THOUSAND *new Inhabitants*, either out of the several Counties of *England*, or from other Countries, amounting in all to 624,000

And the Increase of Inhabitants in the said City within those 78 Years, may possibly be 124,000

So that the WASTE of PEOPLE in *London*, between 1679 and 1758, by *Celibacy, Luxurious Living, Tea, Spirituous Liquors, confined Manner of Life, &c.* hath been about 500,000

Whereof there have probably been supplied THREE THOUSAND per Annum, by common People from *Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, France, Holland, &c.* amounting, for the 78 Years, to 234,000

And the Remainder, which hath been supplied by People from the various Parts of *England*, amounts to 266,000

The WASTE of SEAMEN, by TRADE only, was probably ONE Thousand per Annum, for Fifty Years ending in 1600; TWO Thousand per Annum, for a Hundred Years ending in 1700; and THREE Thousand per Annum, for Fifty-seven Years to 1757 inclusive; which amount in all to about *Four Hundred and Twenty THOUSAND MEN*.

The WASTE of SEAMEN AND SOLDIERS, by Foreign Wars, between the Year 1550 and the present Time, hath probably been about *Three Hundred THOUSAND MEN*.

The WASTE of PEOPLE by our *Sugar Islands*, may probably have been Fifty THOUSAND, from the Times they were first possessed by the *English Nation*, to this present Time.

THESE several Matters I must beg Leave to recommend to the serious Consideration of all Persons who intend to prove, that the Natural Guard of *England* hath not, since the Year 1550, been diminished about *Three Hundred*

Hundred THOUSAND MEN : and I must further request, that those Persons will likewise be pleased to speak explicitly, as well as conclusively, to the following *Queries*, for without doing so, all they can say will be but to little Purpose.

QUERIES Concerning DEPOPULATION.

- First.* Whether the Numbers of COMMON PEOPLE who have come to *ENGLAND*, within One Hundred Years last past, from *Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, France, Holland, &c.* be not about EQUAL to the increased NUMBERS of Inhabitants within that Time, in *Westminster, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Halifax, and Sheffield*?
- Second.* In what other Parts of *ENGLAND* have there been INCREASES OF SUBSTANTIAL PEOPLE, since the Death of *K. Henry VIII.* either in City, Town, or Country, to BALLANCE the Loss of those FARMERS FAMILIES which occupied, in FARMS of *Fifty, Forty, or Thirty ACRES OF LAND*, those Parts of the Counties of *Lincoln, Nottingham, Leicester, Warwick, Rutland, Northampton, Bedford, Buckingham, Oxford, Berks, Worcester, Hertford, Cambridge*, and the Isle of *Wight*, which are not now DIVIDED INTO SUCH FARMS, but instead thereof, are monopolized in FARMS of *One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, &c. HUNDRED ACRES OF LAND EACH*?
- Third.* In what other Parts of *ENGLAND* have there been INCREASES OF PEOPLE, since the Death of *K. Henry VIII.* EQUAL to the NUMBER of FAMILIES which then had Shares in, or Rights of Commoning upon such COMMON LANDS, lying within the aforesaid Counties, as have been INCLOSED since the Year 1546?
- Fourth.* In what other Parts of *ENGLAND* have there been INCREASES OF SUBSTANTIAL PEOPLE, since the Death of *K. Henry VIII.* to BALLANCE the Loss of those FARMERS FAMILIES which held such FARMS, in the Twenty-seven other Counties thereof, as have been MONOPOLIZED by laying them to other FARMS, since the Year 1546?
- Fifth.* In what other Parts of *ENGLAND* have there been INCREASES OF PEOPLE, since the Death of *K. Henry VIII.* EQUAL to the NUMBER of FAMILIES which had then Shares in, or Rights of Commoning upon such COMMON LANDS, lying within the said 27 Counties, as have been INCLOSED since the Year 1546?

Sixth.

Sixth. Whether the Annual Consumption of **THREE MILLIONS of POUNDS of TEA**, and **SIX MILLIONS of GALLONS of SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS** doth not, by one Means or other, **DECREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE in ENGLAND**, about **TEN THOUSAND YEARLY**?

Seventh. Whether **ALL THE LANDS** which have been improved in England within Seventy Years last past, either from *Waste* or from a *bad State of Cultivation*, are **PROBABLY equal** (for it would be unfair to ask such Questions upon other Terms) to the **QUANTITIES OF LAND** which have been Employed within that Time, as followeth:

In growing **CORN** for *Exportation*, or for making of *Spirituous Liquors* consumed in *England*, &c.

In breeding and feeding of **SHEEP**, to supply the increased Foreign Consumption of **ENGLISH Woollen Manufactures**; and the *Wool* that hath been sent to *France*.

In breeding and grazing the increased Number of **HORSES**, for *Exportation*, or for *Home Uses*? — For these *Increased Uses* for **LAND**, do, in my Opinion, much over-balance all the **IMPROVEMENTS** which have been made in the **LANDS of ENGLAND** within *Seventy Years*.

This is all I have to offer at present, concerning the Means whereby the **INTERIOR STRENGTH of ENGLAND** hath been **DIMINISHED**; and therefore I shall now say something of the **PRECARIOUS STATE** into which the **TRADE of ENGLAND** hath been thereby brought; for though that may be evident to many Persons, from what I have already mentioned, yet, it is not likely to be so to every Reader; because the Prosperity of Trade depends upon a longer Chain of Causes than are discoverable without some Application to the Subject.

As to the **TRADE of ENGLAND** being in a precarious State, the great Quantities of *Woollen Manufactures* which the **FRENCH** have sold of late Years to the People of *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, *Turky*, *East-India*, and *America*, are indisputable Proofs of the Matter; and the Loss of most of our **SUGAR TRADE** to *Germany*, *Flanders*, *Holland*, &c. together with the Advances which the **FRENCH** have made in the *Newfoundland FISHERIES*, do not indicate Security to the Foreign Trade of *England*, but on the contrary Precariousness: so that though our *Woollen*, *Silk*, and *Metallic Manufactures* in particular, and our *Foreign Trade* in general, have been vastly more extensive of late Years than they ever were, yet, those **INCREASES** in the **TRADE of FRANCE** have most of them been made

made at the EXPENCE OF *ENGLAND*; and these Losses are by many Persons attributed to the *Increase* of our *Taxes*, for which there is undoubtedly some Reason; but the superior and chief Causes thereof, are, *Monopolizing* of FARMS, *Inclosing* of COMMON FIELDS, and *Unhousing* of COUNTRY COTTAGERS; for by these Means the PRICES of LIVING and of LABOUR have been *Raised* above their *natural Rates* in *ENGLAND*, the TRADE thereof hath been burdened with a NUMEROUS POOR, bad Men have got it in their Power to make *artificial Scarcities* of CORN, CATTLE, &c.

The last of these Things is too well known by sad Experience in this Nation, for near Two Years past: and that it hath proceeded from the former, is most clearly and pathetically shewn in the Preamble to Statute 25 *Henry VIII.* Chap. 13. already inserted at Length, and in Substance as followeth:

Great Multitudes of FARMS *were got into* FEW HANDS;

Great Plenty of CATTLE, and especially SHEEP, *were possessed by a* FEW PEOPLE;

The RENTS and FINES of LAND *were so excessively* ENHANCED, *that no POOR MAN was able to meddle with it;*

The PRICES of CORN, CATTLE, WOOL, &c. *were* RAISED *to almost* DOUBLE the accustomed RATES;

The WOOLLEN MANUFACTURY *was thereby* DECAYED.

A MARVELLOUS MULTITUDE and Number of the PEOPLE OF THIS REALM *were not able to provide* Meat, Drink, and Cloaths *for themselves, their Wives and Children; but were so* DISCOURAGED *with* MISERY and POVERTY *that they fell daily to* THEFT and ROBBERY, *or pitifully* DIED *for* HUNGER and COLD;

WHICH THINGS ——— THUS USED ——— *be principally to the high* Displeasure of ALMIGHTY GOD;

To the DIMINISHING of the KING'S PEOPLE;

And may TURN *to the* UTTER DESTRUCTION and DESOLATION of THIS REALM;

WHICH GOD DEFEND.

Certainly Human Wisdom never produced a more striking Picture of SUCH MATTERS; for RELIGION, HUMANITY, and GOOD POLICY are so equally conspicuous, that I do not know whether the great Men who drew it, are most to be revered for their PIETY, HUMANITY, or SAGACITY: but the Reading of that Preamble over and over again, with a Mixture of Concern and Pleasure, hath had such an Effect upon me, that I cannot help wishing it was fairly printed, and placed in every CHURCH throughout *ENGLAND* and *WALES*.

Thus doth it appear, even by

Ancient Legislative Authority,

That the INTERIOR WEAKNESS
the PRECARIOUS STATE of the TRADE } OF ENGLAND,
the GREAT INCREASE of the POOR . . }

Are ALL OF THEM *primarily and principally* CAUSED, by REMOVING MULTITUDES OF PEOPLE from OUR *Natural and Fixed* BASIS, LAND, to THE *Artificial and Fluctuating* BASIS, TRADE.

Which Matter is still farther confirmed, by the following remarkable Coincidence of Three Things in the Reign of K. *Edward VI.* the immediate Successor of K. *Henry VIII.*

1. The MONOPOLIZING OF FARMS, and the making of DEPOPULATING INCLOSURES, were last begun in that Reign, according to an Extract already inserted here from the Treatise written by *W. S.* and dedicated to Q. *Elizabeth.*
2. The LAWS made against *Forestallers, Regrators and Ingrossers,* to the 25th Year of K. *Edward III.* A. D. 1351, continued without any additional Laws for those Purposes, till the Fifth Year of K. *Edward VI.* A. D. 1551, which is 200 Years; but it was then, *and not before,* declared, That the said Statutes had not taken good Effect, (Statute 5 and 6 *Edward VI.* Chap. 14.) and therefore another Law was made for the said Purposes.
3. The POOR filled the *Streets or Highways* of divers Cities, Towns, Markets, and Fairs (Statute 1 *Edward VI.* Chap. 3.); and they continued INCREASING in such a Manner, that *voluntary ALMS* would not support them; so that *compulsory and universal PROVISION* became necessary for their Maintenance in the Time of Q. *Elizabeth,* and was accordingly made in the 43^d Year of her Reign.

Upon the Whole of these Matters, it appears to me very plain, that the WOOL AND WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES OF ENGLAND have been DECREASING THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THEREIN, for above 200 Years; instead whereof, they might, and must according to the Course of Nature, have been INCREASING ALL THAT TIME, if the ANCIENT POLICY in regard to FARMS, HUSBANDRY, AND COTTAGES had been adhered to.

Obliging the LANDHOLDERS to keep up and maintain proper Numbers of HOUSES OF HUSBANDRY upon their ESTATES, prevented

prevented any DECAY OF SUBSTANTIAL PEOPLE; because every HOUSE ENFORCED A DWELLER, as Lord Bacon expresses it.

And as to the POORER SORT OF PEOPLE, the generality of them having COTTAGES, and Shares in, or Rights of Commoning upon COMMON LANDS, they were thereby enabled to maintain WIVES and CHILDREN; and their NERVES were kept well strung, by there being a proper Proportion of TILLAGE LAND in the several Parts of ENGLAND; so that according to the Course of Nature, they could not DECREASE in either NUMBER, STATURE, OR VIGOUR.

THUS WAS THE INTERIOR STRENGTH OF ENGLAND SECURED UPON A FIRM BASIS;

AND FROM THENCE FOLLOWED,

1. EQUAL POPULATION; because Corn was grown, Cattle fed, and Sheep bred, in each Neighbourhood; so that there could not be any other unequal Peopling than what was caused by the different Degrees of Fertility in the Land.
2. EQUAL PLENTY of the common Necessaries of Life; so far as human Means could secure them.
3. CHEAPNESS OF LABOUR; arising partly from there being sufficient Numbers of common People, and partly from most of them and their Families being half-maintained, by the Help of their Cottages, and their Shares in Common Lands, or Rights of Commoning; which kept the Prices of Labour at only Half what they must otherwise have been.
4. SECURITY against Forestallers, Regrators, and Ingrossers of CORN, CATTLE, WOOL, &c. because there were not then any Pretences for buying great Quantities or Numbers thereof in one County, to sell them in other Counties; for it was the due INTERMIXTURE of TILLAGE AND PASTURE, and not the Statute of 25 Edward III. against Forestallers, &c. whereby the said Security was continued; as appears by that Law not being enlarged, or found defective till the Reign of K. Edward VI. when the said Intermixture was first greatly broke through, and furnished Pretences for FORESTALLING Corn, Cattle, Wool, &c. which have been increasing ever since, and wickedly practised for near Two Years last past, in Defiance of Law and Justice, and without the least Regard to the Miseries and Distresses of Fellow-Creatures.

5. A Division of the SURPLUS WOOL of *England* among so many People, that the Exportation of great Quantities to other Countries was difficult; and very liable to be discovered, as the *Sheep-Lands* were well inhabited.
6. As most of the lower and lowest Classes of People, by having CERTAIN MEANS to, or toward Maintaining WIVES and CHILDREN, must necessarily for those Reasons be much upon the Increase; the WASTES of PEOPLE caused by TRADE, were from Time to Time repaired, *without* DIMINISHING the STOCK OF COUNTRY PEOPLE.

FROM these several Things it evidently appears, that the ANCIENT POLICY OF *ENGLAND* in regard to *Farms, Husbandry, and Cottages*, was equally well calculated for the Security and Increase of FOREIGN TRADE, and for the Preservation and Increase of INTERIOR STRENGTH: and what this NATION hath gained by DEPARTING from that POLICY, the DECAY of our INTERIOR STRENGTH, the PRECARIOUS STATE of our FOREIGN TRADE, and the strong Symptoms of a DECREASE in the NUMBER of PEOPLE for Two Hundred Years LAST PAST, &c. do most unhappily shew.

It is extremely disagreeable to me to say so much upon Matters which cannot be read without Concern by any Well-wisher to this Country, but they are of too much Importance to be passed lightly over; more especially as the Extracts here inserted from our ANCIENT LAWS concerning *Husbandry, Farms, and Cottages*, do at once point out the Disease of DEPOPULATION, and shew how it may be CURED: so that every Person who reads these Considerations, &c. will have the Satisfaction to find, that though the NUMBER of PEOPLE hath been long DECREASING, yet, the LOSS may, UNDER PROVIDENCE, be certainly and safely REPAIRED; and as to the NECESSITY of such Reparation, whoever will consider what is said in the Preamble to Statute 25 *Henry VIII.* Chap. 13. and what WASTES of PEOPLE, &c. &c. there have been since that Time, will be SURE TO FIND IT OUT.



QUERIES *bumbly Recommended to the Consideration* of THE LANDHOLDERS OF ENGLAND.

First. Whether all the MONEY that is Raised to Maintain the POOR, be not ultimately PAID BY THE LANDHOLDERS, together with a compound Trading Interest or Profit upon that Part thereof which they do not immediately pay?

Second. Whether the Landholders, in Succession, have not immediately or consequentially, within Two Hundred Years past, PAID or LOST as much MONEY for or by Means of the POOR, as they have gained by MONOPOLIZING OF FARMS, and the INCLOSURE OF COMMON LANDS?

Third. Whether the DEPOPULATION thereby caused, hath not deprived their Tenants or Them, of a constant HOME DEMAND for Corn, Cattle, Cheese, Butter, Wool, &c. EQUAL to the precarious FOREIGN DEMAND which they have had of late Years for those Commodities?

Fourth. Whether, if there had not been such Depopulation, their Tenants or Themselves would not have had as great or a greater and MORE CERTAIN Foreign Demand for their Commodities, by Reason of the Cheapness of Labour; OVER AND ABOVE a Home Demand EQUAL to the present WHOLE DEMAND at Home and from Abroad.

Fifth. Whether, in the aforesaid Case, there would not have been a greater Home-Consumption of BREAD-CORN by at least ONE MILLION OF QUARTERS, or Eight Millions of Bushels, per Annum; as also a proportionably greater Home Consumption of Cattle, Cheese, Butter, Wool, &c. and whether the Landholders would not then have had HIGHER RENTS to receive, and have received them MORE REGULARLY, than they have done of late Years?

Sixth. Whether the Intermixture of TILLAGE AND PASTURE in every County, and most Neighbourhoods, did not UNITE ALL THE LANDHOLDERS OF ENGLAND IN ONE COMMON INTEREST, that was perfectly consistent with the true and general Interest of the Kingdom; and whether the growing of Corn in one County, the breeding of

Cattle in another, the making of *Cheese* in a Third, *Butter* in a Fourth, &c. have not DESTROYED that former common Interest whereby THE GOOD OF THE WHOLE WAS PROMOTED; and instead thereof CREATED *Five or Six* SEPARATE INTERESTS among the LANDHOLDERS, each of which CLASHES with the other, and ARE ALL AGAINST the TRUE AND GENERAL INTEREST OF THE KINGDOM? — because the People of one County can gain by distressing another; the People of Ten Counties, can distress the People of Thirty Counties; and I believe that there have been about TWO MILLIONS OF Pounds GAINED by so doing, within Two Years last past; but the NATION hath been LOSING all that while, the Peace of it hath been disturbed, Multitudes of poor People near famished, and some innocent Blood shed. — WHICH THINGS — THUS USED — be principally to the high Displeasure of ALMIGHTY GOD. — Statute 25 Henry VIII. Chap. 13.

Seventh. Whether the LOSS OF THE FOREIGN VICTUALLING TRADE, upon the PROHIBITION to Import LIVE CATTLE from IRELAND into ENGLAND, and the Victualling of vast Numbers of ENGLISH SHIPS with Irish Beef, do not make it as plain as the Sun in a bright Summer Day, that the said Prohibition was from the first, and still continues to be, against the TRUE INTEREST OF ENGLAND in general, as well as against the TRUE INTEREST OF THE LANDHOLDERS in particular; and whether such a Prohibition ever could have taken Place at all, if they had not been DIVIDED into separate and jarring Interests as before-mentioned?

Eighth. Whether the Forestalling, Regrating, and Ingrossing of CORN IN ENGLAND, in the Manner it hath been forestalled, &c. within the last Two Years, be not a most effectual Way to LOSE THE CORN TRADE; and, Whether those Foreign Nations which used to consume great Quantities of English CORN, can DEPEND for future Supplies thereof upon a Country wherein, although PROVIDENCE is pleased to send PLENTY, bad Men can nevertheless make artificial SCARCITY, and thereby weaken that mutual Confidence between this and other Nations, without which OUR TRADE CANNOT SUBSIST?

Ninth.

Ninth. Whether the aforefaid Monopolizing of *Farms*, Incloſing of *Common Lards*, Foreſtalling of *Corn*, *Cattle*, &c. and the DEPOPULATION, as well as the vaſt POOR's RATES, and INCREASED PRICES of *Living* and of *Labour*, thereby cauſed in *ENGLAND*, were not from the firſt, and do not ſtill continue to be, the FUNDAMENTAL and CHIEF CAUSES of vaſt Quantities of *Engliſh* WOOL being bought by *Commiſſion* for, or privately conveyed at a *Venture* to the *FRENCH*; who have been thereby enabled to ſell great Quantities of WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES to the People of *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, *Turky*, *East-India*, and *America*, which muſt have been wrought in and ſupplied from *ENGLAND*, if that WOOL had not been Run to *FRANCE*?

Tenth. Whether by theſe Means, the MANUFACTURY of *Engliſh* WOOL hath not been gradually Removing from *England* to *FRANCE*, as it came from *FLANDERS* to *England*?—What but a ſteddy Purſuit of other Meaſures can prevent the *FRENCH* from gaining, by *Degrees*, all our FOREIGN WOOLLEN TRADE, by the Help of *Engliſh* WOOL; and if they ſhould then take A FANCY to come HERE, and manufacture it UPON THE SPOT; Where will there be found a hardy, brave and numerous Race of COUNTRY PEOPLE TO FIGHT FOR THE RELIGION, LIBERTY, AND TRADE OF *ENGLAND*; or TO SECURE THE POSTERITIES OF THE PRESENT LANDHOLDERS, IN THE POSSESSION OF THEIR ESTATES?

I hope that no Perſon will endeavour to invalidate what I have ſaid concerning theſe Matters, by Quotations from Sir *William Petty's* Political Arithmetic, Dr *Davenant's* Eſſays, or Mr *Gregory King's* Calculations; for though I ſhall be extremely glad to have it made appear, that I am miſtaken in regard to Depopulation, &c. yet, I would not have the PUBLIC miſſed, or enter into a Controverſy to no Purpoſe; and therefore I ſhall here ſhew, upon how ſlender and fallacious Foundations thoſe ingenious Men have grounded their Calculations of the NUMBER of PEOPLE in *ENGLAND*, and of the INCREASE therein.

Sir *William Petty* calculated the Number of People in *England* and *Wales* to be SEVEN MILLIONS Three Hundred and Sixty-nine THOUSAND, in the Year 1682, upon the after-named Foundation.

The

The Medium annual Number of Burials in *London* for the Years 1681 and 1682 was 22,331, which Number he multiplied by 30, in order to ascertain the then Number of Inhabitants there, as Major *Graunt* had said, that *One* out of *Thirty* of them died yearly; and as at that Time, they paid *ONE Eleventh PART* of the TAXES of *England* and *Wales*, Sir *William* therefore calculated the Number of People in the other Parts of *England*, to be *TEN TIMES* as many as he calculated there were in *London*.

But it unluckily happened, that Major *Graunt* was mistaken, in regard to *One Person* out of *Thirty* in *LONDON* dying yearly; for according to the Bills of Mortality for this City, *One Person* out of *Twenty-four* dies in a Year; and the Medium annual Number of Burials therein, for *Ten Years* to 1685, was only *Twenty-one Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety-two*, which is 1,039 less than the Medium taken by Sir *W. Petty*, upon only *Two Years*; so that his Calculation is made above *ONE Fifth PART* too high by those Means: and the Proportion between the TAXES of *London* and the other Parts of *England*, cannot give the true Proportion between the NUMBERS of PEOPLE in the *One* and the *Other*; because the Inhabitants of *London* are more *wealthy*, more *luxurious*, and by consequence pay more TAXES in Proportion to their Numbers, than are paid by the other People of *England*.

Sir *W. Petty* likewise calculated, that the Number of People in *London* would be *Five Millions 359 Thousand 440* in the Year 1802; and all the Foundation he had for so doing, was, such an Increase in the Number of Inhabitants therein, between the Years 1603 and 1683 as would, IF it went on at the same RATE, increase to 5,359,440, by the Year 1802; but instead thereof, the Number of People in *London* at this Time is only about 600,000; whereas it ought to have been above *FOUR TIMES* as many, according to his Calculation.

Dr *Davenant* followed Sir *W. Petty* in his Calculation of the Number of People in *England*, which he acknowledges in the First Volume of his *Discourses on the PUBLIC REVENUES*, Page 105, and says, that upon better Inquiry it was found not well grounded; but he doth not say by whom or by what Means the Discovery was made, and as he afterwards inserted Mr *Gregory King's* Calculations of the Number of People, &c. in his *Essay upon the Ballance of TRADE*, it is most likely that he confided in them.

Mr *King* calculated the Number of People in all *England* to be *Five Millions 500 Thousand*, and the Number of People in *London* to be *530 Thousand*; wherein he seems to have followed Sir *W. Petty's* Method, after rectifying the before-mentioned Errors in the Medium Length of LIFE, and the Medium annual Number of BURIALS in *London*; and the hypothetical

Account

Account formed by Mr King, of the Numbers of People which WERE or ARE TO BE in *England*, at the Ends of Eleven Centuries, commencing in the Year 1300, and to end in the Year 2300, is a manifest copying after Sir *William Petty's* Account of the like Sort; wherein they have both taken it for granted, that the PEOPLE of *ENGLAND* did and would INCREASE, without inquiring whether the CAUSES of INCREASE STILL EXISTED, or even regarding the great *Depopulation* that there was in their own Times.

Nay, it appears by the following Extract, that Mr King hath even preferred *Hypothesis* before useful FACTS. — “What he [Mr King] says “concerning the Number of the People to be *Five Millions 500 Thousand* “is no positive Assertion, nor shall we pretend any where to determine that “Matter; what he lays down is by way of Hypothesis, that SUPPOSING “the Inhabitants of *England* to have been, *Anno 1300, Two Millions* “860,000 Heads, by the orderly Series of Increase allowed of by all “Writers, they may probably be about, *Anno 1700, Five Millions 500,000* “Heads; but if they were, *Anno 1300*, either LESS or MORE, the “CASE must proportionably ALTER.” Dr *Davenant's* Essay upon the Ballance of Trade, Page 24.

This proves that Mr King's Calculation is founded upon Conjecture, and it discovers a strange Want of Judgment in those two ingenious Men; for though they knew the Numbers of *Houses, Hearths, &c.* whereby they might have formed a tolerable Calculation of the Number of People in *England*, yet, they forsook those Guides, and begun with a *Conjecture* about the Number of People FOUR HUNDRED YEARS before their own Time.

As to what those three Political Arithmeticians have said concerning the INCREASE OF PEOPLE IN *ENGLAND*, I do not find that they had any better Foundation to build upon, than the Registers of *Births and Burials* in a few Parishes; from which nothing can be certainly discovered, that is of Use in finding out the *Increase or Decrease* of People in this Nation, because there is a general Migration of People, from the *Country* to *Market-Towns*, and from *them* to this *Metropolis*; and this, together with the different Degrees of Healthfulness, Prolification, and Longevity, in the various Parts of *England*, arising from their being situated *high or low*, the Nature of their *Soil*, the Qualities of the *Water*, &c. do prevent particular Registers from being of Use in this Respect; for some Registers will give one Degree of *Increase*, and some another; in some Parishes the Number of Inhabitants will appear to be at a *Stand*, and in others *decreasing*.

So that nothing certain can be come at, without building upon all or most of the Parish-Registers in *England*, and knowing the Numbers of *Foreigners* who die *here*, as well as the Numbers of *English* People who die *abroad*; which several Things have not yet been attempted, nor the Number of People counted; and therefore Recourse must be had to the *Increase* or *Decrease* in the Numbers of HOUSES AND COTTAGES throughout all *ENGLAND*, in order to form a tolerable Judgment of the *Increase* or *Decrease* in the NUMBER OF THE PEOPLE THEREOF: for none of the before-mentioned Calculations are of any real Use in this Respect, though those made by Mr King might have been of some Use, if he had not most unaccountably begun with a *meer vague* CONJECTURE, instead of building upon *useful* FACTS, and considering *what* EFFECTS *the* DEPARTURE *from* our ANCIENT POLICY in regard to FARMS, HUSBANDRY, COTTAGES, &c. *had produced with respect to these* MATTERS.

Concerning the Settlement of the Poor.

The Statute 43 *Elizabeth*, Chap. 2. Whereby universal and regular Provision was first made for the POOR, doth not contain any RULE for SETTLING *them*; but by Statute 39 *Elizabeth*, Chap. 6. All idle Persons going about in any Country [County] Begging, were deemed to be *Rogues, Vagabonds, and Sturdy Beggars*, were ordered to be *Whipped*, and then to be forthwith sent to the *Parishes* in which they were *born*, if the same were known, or otherwise, to the *Parishes* where they last dwelled; from whence it is plain, that there was not at that Time any other Rule for Settling poor People, than IN *the PARISHES where they were born*; though by Statutes 19 *Henry VII.* Chap. 12. and 14 *Elizabeth*, Chap. 5. Abiding or Dwelling in a Place for *Three Years* gained a *Settlement* there; but it seems to have been only in Cases where the *Places of Birth* were not known, as they are first mentioned in both of those Statutes.

Nor could there be any *Rule of Settlement* so proper as this natural one, when *ENGLAND* was near *equally Peopled*, when there were *Common Lands* belonging to most *Parishes*, and when the substantial Inhabitants of each *Parish* were near *equally capable of Employing* their POOR, in *Agriculture, Spinning of Wool, Hemp, Flax, &c.* as is more particularly mentioned in Pages 60 and 61; but the REASON upon which that *Rule of Settlement* was FOUNDED, hath been *wasting away* ever since the Year 1550, by the Monopolizing of *Farms* and the Inclosure of *Common Lands*, as also, by the

the Loss of the *Linen Manufactory* in the Reign of King *Charles* the Second: from which Time, the said *Rule of Settlement* hath been productive of what I should have called great INJUSTICE to many Parishes, if the LAW had not made JUSTICE of it; and yet I am still under a Difficulty, to find out the EQUITY of one Part of the PEOPLE OF THIS REALM paying *Four Shillings* in the *Pound* out of their ESTATES or INCOMES, toward *Maintaining the Poor thereof*, while another Part of Them pay only *One Shilling* in the *Pound* for that Use, and some, perhaps, pay only *Four-pence* in the *Pound*.

For this certainly was not the Case in the Reigns of Queen *Elizabeth*, King *James* I. and King *Charles* I. though the Charge might not then be EQUALLY BORNE; and it is certain, that enormous Poor's-Rates have since those Times brought many Trading Towns to RUIN or DECAY; because the Payment thereof hath obliged the substantial Inhabitants of such Towns to RAISE the PRICES of their *Woollen* or other *Manufactures* proportionably, which being thereby made DEARER than like *Manufactures* wrought elsewhere, the said Towns have, by those Means, lost their Trade.

To this it was owing, that the WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES OF ENGLAND were in a much more Ruinous State during the Reign of King *Charles* II. than they otherwise would have been; for it appears by an Account of the then Poor's-Rates, inserted in Dr *Davenant's* ESSAY upon WAYS and MEANS, that the People of TEN COUNTIES, which principally depended upon *Woollen Manufactures*, paid almost as much Money toward *Maintaining the Poor*, as was paid by the People of the other FORTY TWO COUNTIES in *England* and *Wales*.

The TOTAL SUM paid in the Fifty-two Counties, upon a Medium of several Years, toward the latter End of the said Reign, was, *Six Hundred and Sixty-five THOUSAND Three HUNDRED and Sixty-two POUNDS per Annum*; which Sum amounts to *Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-five POUNDS*, &c. for each County, upon a general Average; but the *Ten* after-named Counties, instead of contributing proportionably, paid the several Sums placed against each of them respectively; and as *Yorkshire* is not one of them, there cannot be much Reason to object against my stating this Matter as if the several Counties were of equal Extent, &c. though they are far from being so in Reality.

COUNTIES.

COUNTIES.	Poor's-Rates.
	<i>Pounds.</i>
Devonshire and Exon	34m764
Essex	37m348
Gloucestershire and Gloucester	19m600
Kent	29m875
Lincolnshire and Lincoln	31m500
Norfolk and Norwich	46m200
Somersetshire and Bristol	30m263
Suffolk	25m750
Wiltshire	18m240
London, Middlesex, and Westminster	56m380

These Ten Counties paid £ 329m920
 But their Proportion, upon an Average, was only 127m950

So that they paid more than their Proportion, by 201m970
 Which is much above DOUBLE what they ought to have paid.

And as Manufacturies do not spread *equally* in any County, but are generally carried on in particular Towns or Parishes thereof, it is very probable, that such Towns or Parishes, within the aforesaid Ten Counties, as had *Woollen Manufacturies* seated in them during the Reign of King Charles II. did then pay FOUR TIMES their Proportion of the CHARGE of MAINTAINING the POOR of ENGLAND.

Things of this Sort frequently happen, in one or other of our Trading Towns; and as they are attended by a long Train of ill Consequences, it is surprizing to me, that a Stop hath not been put to them; for

BY THESE MEANS
 The FRENCH have gained great Advantages over US in our FOREIGN WOOLLEN TRADE to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Turkey, East-India, and America.

OUR principal *Woollen Manufacturers* have been obliged to have their CLOTHS and STUFFS made either inferior in *Quality*, or less in *Quantity*, than they USED to be; or to oppress their Workmen and Workwomen by reduced RATES of WAGES, or by paying them in CORN, CHEESE, &c. instead of MONEY; in order to keep the said CLOTHS and STUFFS at such PRICES, that they might be sold in FOREIGN MARKETS.

The PEOPLE OF ENGLAND have been obliged to PAY more than proportionably DEARER for, or to be WORSE SERVED with WOOLLEN CLOTHS AND STUFFS, for their own WEAR or USE; because all the Money that principal Manufacturers pay toward Maintaining the POOR, must be repaid to them in the Prices of their Manufactures, and likewise a trading Interest or Profit thereon.

So that the Advantages which *seemingly* arise to those People who pay less than **EQUAL PROPORTIONS** toward *Maintaining the Poor*, are *meer Deceptions*; for the **WHOLE NATION** are **LOSERS** thereby, and none **GAIN** but the *French*.

Nor are these the only ill Consequences which attend the *great Inequalities* between the *Poor's-Rates* in the different Parts of **ENGLAND**; for the **DISTRESS** that hath been thereby brought into many reputable Families, hath caused them to look upon *poor People* as a **NUSANCE**.

Every Person can see a *Reason* why he ought to pay as much Money toward the **EXPENCES** of **GOVERNMENT**, as is paid by other Persons of like *Estate* or *Income* with himself; and his *Conscience* will inform him, that he ought to contribute toward *Maintaining the Poor* in his **COUNTRY**, according to his *Ability*; but neither *Reason* nor *Conscience* will tell him, that he ought to pay **FOUR TIMES** as much as another Person in like Circumstances; and as the **LAW** doth not require him to pay **MORE** than his **JUST SHARE** of the **TAXES** upon *Land, Houses, Beer, Wine, Salt, &c.* he may well wonder that the **LAW** obliges him to pay **MORE** than an **EQUAL SHARE** of the **TAX** to **MAINTAIN** the **POOR**.

For the Principles of *Equity* in the common Concerns of Life, are equally well understood by Persons of every Degree, and as the Welfare of Multitudes of reputable Families depends upon their paying only **MODERATE Poor's-Rates**, natural Affection obliges them to seek for Relief from **ENORMOUS ones**; but the **LAW** is **DEAF** in these Cases, for it obliges them to maintain all the poor People who were either *born* in the Parishes where such Families dwell, or have *acquired Settlements* in those Parishes, by living there, according to certain **RULES** and **FORMS** prescribed by Authority; so that such Families are driven to the hard Necessity of either distressing themselves, or of not providing for those poor People whom the Law hath ordered them to Maintain; and as **CHARITY** begins at **HOME**, the **POOR** must shift for themselves, and wander about *Begging* or *Stealing*.

This is a Reason why poor People are so ill cared for in many Parishes, and this together with the Disgust caused by being obliged to Maintain *able* Poor in Idleness, are really enough to make even worthy and charitably disposed Persons look upon the **POOR** as a **NUSANCE**; to which the **LAW** hath greatly contributed by branding poor People with the Appellation of **ROGUE**, and ordering them to be **PUNISHED** accordingly, although they neither have *stolen* nor attempted to *steal* **ANY THING**, but only supplicated that **RELIEF** which their Parishes *cannot* or *will not* give them; for this furnishes People who are of *Ability* to **GIVE**, and *would otherwise be ashamed to* **DENY**, with Pretences for not giving *Alms* to such poor People as are real Objects of Charity, and more than countenanceth cruel or unwarrantable Treatment of the *Poor*.

Such have been the bitter Fruits of adhering to a **RULE of SETTLEMENT** for the **POOR**, after the **REASON of IT is GONE**; and as to the modern Deviations from that Rule in several Cases, they have introduced a contemptible **LOW CUNNING** among substantial Persons, in their **DEALINGS with working PEOPLE**, and by common **POOR**; which hath obliged the Latter to practise **Cunning** in their own Defence, and for this they are called by hard Names, although they only follow the **EXAMPLE of their BETTERS**, and **Poverty** will justify many Actions which are **Disgraces to Substantiality**.

By Statute 8 and 9 *William III.* Chap. 30. Sect. 1. If any Person who shall come into any Parish there to inhabit, shall at the same Time deliver to the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of such Parish, a Certificate (*under the Hands and Seals of the Churchwardens and Overseers of any other Parish, attested by Two or more credible Witnesses, and subscribed by Two or more Justices of the Peace*) acknowledging the Person or Persons therein mentioned, to be legally settled in that Parish; such Certificate shall oblige the Parish from whence the said Person or Persons came, to Receive and Provide for them and their Families, whenever he, she, or they, become chargeable, or are forced to ask Relief, in the Parish to which they Removed, although the Children of such Person or Persons were born there; provided they have not otherwise acquired a legal Settlement therein. I wish that some Person would point out the **EQUITY of letting one PARISH bear the Burden arising from the LABOUR of a working Family**, so long as they can or do work, and of then obliging ANOTHER PARISH to Maintain that Family in Old Age or Sickness.

If Certificates of this Sort were easily obtainable by all working People, who are obliged to seek for Employment out of the Parishes in which they were born, such People would be thereby *protected*, and have some Chance of getting Relief, when they fall Sick, or come to Poverty in strange Places, or where they are not legally intitled to Relief: but I do not find that the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, can be compelled to give such Certificates, and I have been assured that they frequently refuse to grant them; so that poor labouring People are left to shift for themselves, and are thereby exposed to be **DEEMED ROGUES**, and to be **PUNISHED as THIEVES**, or to **PERISH FOR WANT**; nearly on Account of a *Keenish Cunning* and *Intention*, to load other Parishes with poor People, who do not fairly, or even according to Law, belong to them. — Certainly those Men who can without *just Cause* refuse to grant such Certificates to poor labouring People, would give a Waterman Sixpence to set stranded dead Bodies afloat again, that the Parishes they REPRESENT may save a few Shillings, by not having such Bodies to bury; or would make excellent **NEGRO-DRIVERS** in our *Sugar-Islands*.

By Statute 3 *William and Mary*, Chap. 11. Sect. 7. Any unmarried Person, not having Child or Children, who shall be lawfully hired for One Year in

any

any Town or Parish, and perform that Service, shall be adjudged to have a good Settlement therein. — And from hence have sprung other Pieces of *low Cunning*, which are, Quarrelling with Servants before they have lived a Year in one Place; having sham Quarrels with them for a Week or so, and then hiring them again; or hiring them for less Time than a Year.

By Section 8. of the last-named Statute, Any Person who shall be bound an Apprentice by Indenture, in any Town or Parish, and there inhabit during such Time of Binding, shall be deemed to have a good Settlement therein.

By Statute 9 George I. Chap. 7. Sect. 5. No Person who purchaseth an Estate under the Value of *Thirty Pounds* in any Parish, shall thereby acquire a Settlement in that Parish for any longer Time than such Person shall inhabit in the Estate so bought, but shall be removed to the Parish wherein he or she was last legally settled. — So that if a Man loses *Twenty or Thirty Pounds* by Misfortunes in one Parish, he is not to be there Maintained, but must be Removed into another Parish, from whence he most probably brought his Money; in which Case, *one Parish* gains the MONEY, and the *Parish which lost it*, is obliged to Maintain the PAUPER. — *The EQUITY of which I cannot find out.*

I shall not mention any more of the Means whereby People may acquire Settlements out of the Parishes in which they were born, as those already mentioned are the most general ones; but it will be necessary to point out the principal ill Consequences which have attended breaking through the *natural, ancient, and plain RULE of SETTLEMENT by Birth*; for though I have already shewn, that the said RULE hath long out-lived the REASON upon which the same was FOUNDED, yet, the Distresses, Hardships, &c. thereby caused, do seem to me to have been greatly increased by the modern Deviations from it.

I have before observed, that the general Course of Migration in England, is, from Rural Parishes to Market-Towns, and from both of them to the Capital City; so that great Multitudes of People, who were born in Rural Parishes, are continually acquiring SETTLEMENTS in Cities or Towns, more especially in those Towns where considerable Manufacturies are carried on; and as TRADE is not only of a fluctuating Nature, but many Towns in England carry on Manufacturies of the same Kind, and are always gaining or losing with respect to each other, although there be an Increase of Manufacturies upon the Whole; it must necessarily follow, that there will be frequent Ebbings in the Manufacturies of one or other of our Trading Towns.

And when the Manufacturies of any Town or Parish are upon the Decay, both EQUITY and GOOD POLICY seem to me to require, that such Town or Parish should have some HELP toward Maintaining the unemployed People there inhabiting; which *Help*, the ancient Rule of Settlement by Birth

did in Part give, because such of the unemployed People in a Decaying Town or Parish as were not born therein, were to go to their native Places for Maintenance: whereas by these modern **SUPERCEDURES** of Settlement by *Birth*, a Decaying Town hath so many poor People to Maintain, who have acquired **SETTLEMENTS** therein, by being either *Housekeepers, Apprentices, or hired Servants*, that it can hardly escape **RUIN**.

The said Supercedures of Settlement by *Birth* have also introduced, as before-mentioned, a contemptible *low Cunning* among substantial People, in their **DEALINGS** with *working People*, and by *common Poor*; which is not only base in itself, but puts poor People upon practising *Cunning* in their Turn, and is a **DISHONOUR** to the **NATION**.

The said Supercedures have likewise caused numberless **LAW-SUITS**, about the Settlement of the Poor, created *nice Distinctions*, and raised *trifling Difficulties*; insomuch, that what the Reverend and Judicious Mr *Burn* hath thought expedient to insert concerning the *Relieving, Ordering, &c.* of the Poor, in his Digest of our Laws, makes full **ONE Thirteenth PART** of the Whole; and he says, That there have been more Cases adjudged upon the *single Act* of 13 and 14 of *Charles II.* [whereby the ancient Rule of Settlement by Birth was first broke through, &c.] than upon any other *Fifty Acts* in the Statute-Book.—See, Title—**POOR (Settlements)**—in the said Digest.

Certainly such a Multiplicity of Law-Suits, is a strong Sign of Badness in the Law that admits of them: but Things of this Kind lose all Weight, when it is considered that our **LAWS** have **SETTLED** the **POOR** in such a **MANNER**, as to compel one Part of the **PEOPLE** of **ENGLAND** to pay **FOUR TIMES** as much **MONEY** toward **MAINTAINING** the **POOR** thereof, as is paid by other People of like **ESTATES** or **INCOMES**; and when the great Objects **EQUALITY** and **GOOD POLICY** are quite out of **SIGHT**, neither **RULES** nor **REASONING** can do **MUCH GOOD**.

Concerning the **REMOVAL** of **POOR PEOPLE** from the Places where they fall **SICK**, or want **EMPLOYMENT**, to the Places of their **SETTLEMENT**.

THE Removal of poor People to the Places of their Settlement, was both **EQUITABLE** and **PROPER**, when the substantial Inhabitants of most Parishes were **EQUALLY** capable of *Employing* their **POOR**: but this hath not been wholly the Case in **ENGLAND** since the Year 1550, as I have before shewn; nor hath it been so, in any Degree, since the Loss of the *Linen Manufactory* in the Reign of *K. Charles II.* from which Time, the **POOR** have not only been made very numerous, by the Means already mentioned, but the Quantities of Employment in different Parishes have likewise

likewise been made very disproportionable; so that vast Multitudes of working People are obliged to leave their native Places, and to travel about the Nation, in order to Maintain themselves by honest Industry.

And therefore the sending of such People to their own Parishes, when they fall Sick or want Employment in other Parts of the Nation, cannot now be RIGHT; because, in general, it is Removing them from Parishes wherein *they MIGHT BE EMPLOYED, or better RELIEVED*, to Parishes which *they have LEFT for WANT of EMPLOYMENT or RELIEF*: and when the Inhabitants of wealthy Cities, Towns, or Parishes, do such Things as these, the Inhabitants of Places where Wealth doth not abound, may well follow their Example; but the Driving of poor People about in this Manner is a *bad THING*, the same is likewise attended with a *great and fruitless EXPENCE*, and it gives to THIEVES many Opportunities of *Stealing and Concealment*.

For if immediate *Relief and Employment* were tendered to all People who beg, those *Beggars* who begun to make *Excuses*, instead of accepting of the *Offer*, might well be suspected to be *Thieves*, or at least *Vagabonds*; but the Misfortune is, that not many Parishes can fulfil such *Offers*, without receiving *Beggars* into private Houses, or trusting them farther than ought in Prudence to be done: so that *distressed working People, cunning Beggars, and Rogues*, are all suffered to pass through the Country, *with or without RELIEF or PUNISHMENT*, according to the Dispositions of Magistrates, &c. and as to the *working People*, it is *Ten to One* that they cannot be Employed in their Parishes when they return to them, *without taking BREAD from some other INDUSTRIOUS PEOPLE who live there*.

The Justices of Peace may indeed oblige the substantial Inhabitants of Parishes to employ in Turn such poor unemployed People, but these are at best *hard Expedients*; for every *Freeholder, Farmer, Tradesman, &c.* doth of course Employ as many *Servants or Workmen* as he wants, and such as can well perform the Business he sets them about: so that obliging *Farmers, Tradesmen, &c.* to take *Servants* whom they have not Occasion for, and who are *Strangers to the Business*, if not unable to perform it, is really a Hardship upon them; especially as they must either Maintain for a Time *One Servant more than they can Employ*, or turn a *well-known Servant* out of Employment: in the latter of which Cases, it is the *discarded Servant*, and not the *Parish*, that MAINTAINS the other *poor Person*.



A RECAPITULATION concerning DEPOPULATION.

THE *Wool* and *Woollen Manufacturies* of *England* are **NATURALLY** Causes of great **WEALTH** and **POPULATION**, and wise Laws made them so in **FACT**, till the Reign of *K. Edward VI*; but from that Reign to this present Time, a perverse Use hath been made of those National Blessings, whereby their natural Effects have been perverted into **POVERTY** and **DEPOPULATION**: which have been brought about, by Removing Multitudes of People from Our natural and fixed Basis, Land, to the artificial and fluctuating Basis, Trade; or, in plainer Words,

B Y

MONOPOLIZING OF FARMS,

A N D

INCLOSING OF COMMON LANDS;

W H E R E B Y

Some **HUNDRED THOUSANDS** of **FARMERS** and **COTTAGERS**,

W H O

Were most to be Depended upon

F O R

The DEFENCE of the NATION, and the INCREASE of PEOPLE,

HAVE BEEN BEREAVED

O F

PROPERTY OR INTEREST IN LAND;

T H E O N L Y

CERTAIN MEANS to Maintain **WIVES** and **CHILDREN**,

FOR NO BETTER REASON THAN

THE GREAT PROFIT THAT COMETH OF SHEEP:

A N D

HAVE BEEN DRIVEN TO SEEK FOR MAINTENANCE,

B Y

UNCERTAIN MEANS arising from **TRADE;**

W H E R E I N,

LUXURIOUS LIVING or **POVERTY OF CIRCUMSTANCES,**

A N D

The Want of MANLY EXERCISE, or being MUCH CONFINED,

H A V E

IMPAIRED their HEALTH and BODILY STRENGTH:

From whence have followed,

DECREASES in the NUMBER, STATURE and VIGOUR,

O F

T H E I R P O S T E R I T I E S,

From GENERATION to GENERATION,

WHICH HAVE ENDED

I N

TOTAL EXTINCTION AND NATIONAL WEAKNESS.

A RECAPITULATION concerning the POOR.

THE PERVERTED USE
 OF
 WOOL AND WOOLLEN MANUFACTURIES,
 For TWO HUNDRED YEARS past,
 WAS AND IS,
 THE FIRST AND GREAT CAUSE
 OF
 A NUMEROUS and INCREASING POOR,
 DURING ALL THAT TIME;
 FOR
 BY MEANS THEREOF,
 PEOPLE have been CONTINUALLY REMOVED from LAND,
 FASTER THAN
 THEY have been EMPLOYED in, or EXTINGUISHED by TRADE:
From whence have followed,
 CONSTANT SUCCESSIONS of POOR UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE,
 WHOM
 THE LAW hath caused to be SEPARATED into SMALL NUMBERS,
 SO AS TO
 MAKE it the INTEREST of their MAINTAINERS,
 TO
 KEEP THEM IN IDLENESS;
 AND HATH ALSO
 SETTLED THEM so VERY UNEQUALLY
 THAT
 The POOR'S - RATES in some PARISHES
 ARE
 FOUR TIMES AS HIGH AS in other PARISHES;
 WHICH THINGS HAVE PRODUCED
 HARD HEARTEDNESS toward DISTRESSED PERSONS and common POOR,
 THAT hath been the OCCASION
 OF
 THEIR BEING ILL TREATED,
 AND
 ILL TREATMENT HATH DRIVEN THEM
 TO
 THEFT, PROSTITUTION OR BEGGING;
 Wherein the LAW hath been INSTRUMENTAL,
 BY
 NOT making proper PROVISION for POOR PEOPLE out of their PARISHES,
 AND BY
 TREATING Them as THIEVES if They BEG,
 THOUGH BEGGING be AN OVERT-ACT of HONESTY AND NECESSITY

A DISTRIBUTION of the PROFITS arising from the LABOUR of Manufacturers and other Working People.

AS it is a common Saying, *That THOSE who PROFIT by the LABOUR of the POOR, ought to MAINTAIN them*; and there are not only many Persons who think *that the PROFITS arising from such LABOUR are chiefly CONFINED to the principal Manufacturers and other substantial Inhabitants of the TOWNS and PARISHES wherein MANUFACTURIES or other TRADE are carried on*, but the same hath been, or seems to have been the FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE by which the LAWS of ENGLAND have SETTLED the POOR thereof, it will be proper to shew, that the said PROFITS are not so CONFINED; but on the contrary, are DIFFUSED FAR and WIDE, among the substantial Inhabitants of various Countries, Counties or Parishes; and that, in general, ONLY a small Proportion of such Profits REMAIN to the substantial Inhabitants of those Towns and Parishes wherein they were gained by Labour as afore said.

In order to which, it will be necessary to make an ESTIMATE of the INCOME and EXPENCES of a common Manufacturer's or Working Man's FAMILY; for as Four Parts in Five, and in many Instances a greater Proportion, of the Profits arising from the Labour of such a Family, are first of all paid to it in WAGES, the Manner in which those Wages are laid out, will be a CLUE to discover, WHO OBTAIN the PROFITS arising from that LABOUR; because what is true in regard to such a Family, will generally be true with respect to substantial Families which live in the same Town or Parish.

But I must caution the Reader, not to mistake the following ESTIMATE, for the real State of any one FAMILY in particular, nor to raise Objections against the Rates of Wages, or against this or that Head of Expence, as being somewhat too high or too low; for Families which are of the same Class, have not all like Incomes, nor do they proportion their Expences alike, but some lay out more Money in one Thing and some in another, as Occasion or Inclination direct, so that MATTERS of this Sort must be stated in a general Manner.

AN ESTIMATE of the ANNUAL INCOME and EXPENCES of a Manufacturer, his Wife, and Children.

ANNUAL INCOME.

The HUSBAND may earn Fifteen Pence a Day, the WIFE Sixpence, a greater Boy or Girl Two Pence, and a lesser Boy or Girl One Penny, making in all Two Shillings a Day; at which Rates, if they work Three Hundred Days in the Year, their Whole ANNUAL INCOME will be THIRTY POUNDS; and their Annual Expences may be as follow,

ANNUAL

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

		£	s	d
1	For HOUSE-RENT	1	—	—
2	BREAD-CORN, for 6 in Family; <i>Thirty-six Bushels</i> at 3s. 6d. per Bushel (or <i>Roots and Greens</i> in Lieu of Part of this Quantity of <i>Bread-Corn</i>)	6	6	—
3	CHEESE 12 Pence per Week	2	12	—
4	MILK and BUTTER The same	2	12	—
5	BEEF, PORK, &c. The same	2	12	—
6	BEER or CYDER The same	2	12	—
7	SALT 6 Pecks	—	6	—
8	GROCERY WARES and MEDICINES	—	10	—
9	WOOLLEN CLOATHING	4	—	—
10	LINEN CLOTH	2	—	—
11	SHOES	1	10	—
12	COALS, CANDLES and SOAP,	1	10	—
13	REPAIRS of Household Utensils, &c.	—	10	—
14	TAXES and Tradesmen's Profits thereon	1	10	—

Total of the *Annual Expences* 29 : 10 : —

These Matters being premised, it will now be easy to discover,

WHO gain the PROFITS arising from LABOUR as aforesaid;

For every Person must be convinced, that the common Wants of Nature oblige *Manufacturers* and other *working People* to lay out their WAGES in the several necessary *Commodities* and *Manufactures* which are mentioned in the preceding Estimate; and it is evident that the Inhabitants of Trading Towns and Parishes cannot GAIN MORE than they can KEEP of the PROFITS arising from LABOUR therein performed, or KEEP MORE of them than are laid out for *Commodities* or *Manufactures* there PRODUCED.

If they are supplied with *Corn, Cheese, Butter, Beef, Mutton, Pork, Malt, Woollen Cloathing, &c.* from other Counties, or Parishes, the People thereof GAIN from the said Inhabitants AS MUCH of the PROFITS arising from their LABOUR, AS IS RECEIVED for the COMMODITIES so supplied; and the People of those other Counties and Parishes derive that GAIN from the said LABOUR, for by Means thereof, Money was earned to pay for their *Commodities*; so that nothing more remains on this Head than to ascertain the PROPORTION of PROFITS KEPT in TRADING TOWNS and PARISHES.

And this, though VARIED by the different Quantities, Fertility, &c. of Land lying within the parochial Limits of such Towns and Parishes respectively, cannot be GREAT in any Part of ENGLAND; because, considerable *Manufacturies* are generally carried on in CITIES, or MARKET TOWNS:—the Lands parochially belonging to *Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Liverpoole, Manchester, Leeds, Halifax, Sheffield, &c.* probably are not

sufficient to supply their respective Inhabitants with *Roots, Greens, Fruits, Milk*, and to graze or feed their *Horses*.

But then there are many other Trading Parishes which have a Number of *Farms* within their several Limits, from whence the Inhabitants are partly supplied with *Corn, Cattle, Cheese, or Butter*, and are thereby enabled to **KEEP a greater PROPORTION of the PROFITS arising from their LABOUR**; — so that a Medium between these two Extremes must be taken, and the following Distribution of *Twenty-nine Pounds Ten Shillings*, earned and expended by a Manufacturer's Family as aforesaid, may well enough serve for a general Rule.

A Distribution of the Profit arising from Labour, and Expended for Maintenance of the Family that Earned it.

There will Remain in the Parish where the Family lives—For	£	s	d
<i>House-Rent, Milk, Butter, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Article N^o 12, and $\frac{1}{4}$ Part of the Tradesmen's Profits, or Manufacturers Labour, on the Commodities and Manufactures mentioned in the Estimate</i>	5	10	—
There will be Gained in other Counties or Parishes in <i>England</i> —By the OWNERS or OCCUPIERS of <i>Corn Lands, Breeding Lands, Feeding Lands, Dairy Lands, Sheep Lands, Wood Lands, Mines of Coal, Copper, Tin, Lead, Iron, Saltworks</i> ; as also, by Manufacturers, Artificers, and Tradesmen, of various Sorts—among them all	21	—	—
There will be paid for <i>Taxes</i> into His MAJESTY's Exchequer	1	5	—
There will be Gained by the People of <i>Scotland or Ireland</i> , for <i>Linen Cloth</i>	1	10	—
There will be Gained by the <i>British Colonies, Spain, Venice, &c.</i> for <i>Grocery Wares and Drugs</i>	—	5	—
The Total as before	29	10	—

From hence it appears, that in general, **ONLY ONE Fifth PART of the PROFITS arising from the LABOUR of Manufacturers, and other working People in TRADING PARISHES, CAN BE KEPT in the CITIES, TOWNS, or PARISHES, wherein the same are GAINED**: and yet, if any Trading City, Town, or Parish comes to **DECAY**, the remaining substantial Inhabitants thereof are obliged by **LAW**, to **MAINTAIN ALL THEIR POOR**; at least, the People of other Counties cannot be obliged to contribute thereto, nor even the People of other Parishes in the same County, unless the Justices of Peace within such County, think proper to use the *Discretional Power* vested in them by Statute 43 *Elizabeth* Chap. 2. Sect. 3: which Power is only to be used when the Inhabitants of a Parish are not able to levy among themselves sufficient Sums of Money for Maintaining and Employing their Poor; so that a PARISH is to be **Ruined BEFORE** it can be **Relieved**, instead of having **RELIEF** before it comes to **RUIN**.

A
NEW SYSTEM OF POLICY

Most humbly Proposed for

RELIEVING, EMPLOYING, and ORDERING

The POOR of ENGLAND and WALES.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Religious.</i> | { | <p>The Maintenance of the POOR is a Duty required of Mankind by ALMIGHTY GOD:</p> <p>The Ability to perform this Duty consists in Wealth or Means of living:</p> <p>Each Person is therefore to discharge the said Duty proportionably to his Circumstances.</p> |
| <i>Political and Judicial.</i> | { | <p>The making of Provision for the Poor is the Business of Government:</p> <p>The Charge of such Provision is a Tax upon the Estates and Incomes of the People:</p> <p>The said Tax ought therefore to be equally borne as other Taxes are.</p> <p>Proper Maintenance should be provided for all poor People, when and where they want Relief:</p> <p>Those poor People who are so relieved ought to work for their Maintainers, if they are able:</p> <p>Such of them as can work but refuse to employ themselves, may therefore justly be punished.</p> |
| <i>Commercial.</i> | { | <p>Their chief Work should be of those Sorts which Men, Women, and Children may easily learn and perform:</p> <p>It should likewise be such Work as is much and constantly wanted in all Parts of <i>England</i>:</p> <p>And such as will not take Employment from other <i>English</i> People or <i>British</i> Subjects.</p> |

A SYSTEM

A SYSTEM OF POLICY founded upon, or regulated by these PRINCIPLES, must necessarily be productive of National Good, and Domestic Happiness; because the *Miseries* and *Distresses* which proceed from *Poverty of Circumstances*, may be immediately and universally *Relieved* by Means of such Policy; and, upon A CONDITION that will not only INCREASE the WEALTH of the NATION, but will likewise DISCOVER whether the POVERTY be REAL or COUNTERFEITED, and whether IT hath been caused by ACCIDENTS or BAD ACTIONS, so that ROGUES may be thereby detected and brought to Justice; for honest and industrious poor People will cheerfully accept of Relief upon the Condition of working, if they are able, but Thieves and Impostors will either refuse to work, or endeavour to avoid it, and thereby become Evidences of their own Guilt.

In these MAIN THINGS, our present POLICY with regard to the POOR is exceedingly defective, though it doth not appear to be so by the Letter of the Poor's - LAWS; for Relief and Employment are thereby ordered to be every where provided for poor People, and severe Punishments are decreed for Thieves, Impostors, &c.; but unhappily, the MANNER OF ORDERING the said Relief and Employment is such, that it is either out of the POWER, or against the INTEREST of most People, to provide what is ordered; and it is against CONSCIENCE to punish POOR PEOPLE for BEGGING, when the greater Part of the Nation have NOT made that PROVISION upon which the EQUITY of such PUNISHMENT DEPENDS.

Under these Circumstances, the POOR of ENGLAND cannot be either well Relieved, or well Employed, nor can many begging THIEVES or IMPOSTORS be detected; for Laws which require *Impossibilities* cannot be obeyed, Laws which are against the Interest of most People will be neglected, but Punishments against Conscience will not be inflicted: so that though we have a great Number of Poor's-Laws already, there is still a Want of one Law MORE, to give Force and Efficacy to the others now in being; but Things which are Wrong in their First Principles cannot be made Right, and therefore I shall take the Liberty of proposing a System of Policy conformable to the Principles before mentioned.

FUNDAMENTAL PROPOSITIONS.

First . . . That the CHARGE of Maintaining or otherwise Providing for the POOR of ENGLAND and WALES should be EQUALLY BORNE by the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants thereof; that the same should be ASSESSED by the RENTS of HOUSES, LANDS, &c.; and, that each Person's QUOTA should be determined by a Pound-Rate upon the full annual Rent or Value of his or her House, Land, &c.

Second,

Second. That every **POOR PERSON** who shall want **RELIEF**, should be **EQUALLY INTITLED** thereto, in any City, Town, Parish, or extraparochoial Place in *England or Wales*, without regarding where such Person was **BORN** or had **LIVED**.

Many Objections will probably be made against this **PROPOSITION**, but every Person will be sure to find out the **EQUITY** of it, by bringing the **MATTER HOME** to HIMSELF; for Hunger, Sickness, and Infirmiti, are great **HELPS** to the Understanding in these Cases, and make **MEN** competent Judges of what is **FITTING TO BE DONE** for OTHER PEOPLE in the like Circumstances.

Third. In order to universally and effectually provide such **RELIEF**, it is necessary, that there be established in every **COUNTY**, a competent Number of **HOUSES** of **MAINTENANCE** and **EMPLOYMENT**, for the Reception of all **POOR PEOPLE** within each County respectively.

Fourth. That the **POOR** who are Maintained by their Parishes, or otherwise, and those **PEOPLE** who shall become **POOR**, should be all Removed into such **Houses of Maintenance and Employment**, there to be Maintained and Employed, so long as they shall want Relief.

Fifth. That all **DISTRESSED PERSONS**, whether *Natives* or *Foreigners*, who shall apply to be received into any **House of Maintenance and Employment**, should be immediately admitted and hospitably treated therein, so long as they behave well, without Warrant, Direction, or Recommendation, from any Magistrate, Officer, or other Person whatever; but that no such Person should be permitted to leave any **House of Maintenance and Employment**, without an Order in writing from the principal Officer therein.

Sixth. That such of the said **POOR PEOPLE** as shall at the Time be capable of **WORKING**, should be chiefly **EMPLOYED** in Sowing, Reaping, Dressing, &c. of **HEMP** or **FLAX**, or in Spinning that or other **Hemp or Flax** into such Sorts of **YARN**, or in Manufacturing the same into such Sorts of **LINEN CLOTH**, as are, or shall at the Time be Imported into **GREAT BRITAIN**, from some Countries or Country which do not belong to the **BRITISH CROWN**:—and that whenever there shall be a Want of People, in the Neighbourhood of any **House of Maintenance and Employment**, to perform occasional Work, and especially **Harvest-Work**, such of the aforesaid poor People as shall be capable of doing the same, and shall be applied for to assist therein, should be hired, or permitted to hire themselves, at the customary or reasonable Wages, for the Times they shall be so wanted.

Seventh. That to each House of Maintenance and Employment there should be appointed, a proper Officer to take Charge of, govern, and punish if necessary, all *idle, or refractory Persons* therein maintained; and likewise to take Charge, &c. of all *Beggars* who shall be brought there against their Wills; as also, of those Persons who shall with good Reason be suspected of having committed *Robberies*, or other *punishable Crimes*, so as to make the Confinement of them justifiable and necessary: — and, that a proper House of Confinement and Correction, &c. should be erected near unto each House of Maintenance and Employment, for the Safe-keeping, &c. of all such *idle, refractory, or suspected Persons*.

Eighth. That all Persons who *BEG*, should be immediately, or as soon as may be, conveyed by Constables, or other proper Officers, to the nearest Houses of Maintenance and Employment within the Counties where such *begging* shall be; that if any of those Persons shall refuse to be so conveyed, or shall run away from the Officers who have the Charge of them, they should, if retaken, be carried there by Force, and be committed to the Keeping of those Officers who take Charge of *idle, refractory, and suspected Persons*; and, that if any such Person be not retaken, an Advertisement describing his or her Person, &c. should be inserted in some of the *London Evening News Papers*.

Ninth. That Two or more of the substantial Householders in each Parish should be annually appointed COLLECTORS OF THE POOR'S-RATES, in the same Manner as OVERSEERS of the POOR are now appointed; and that such Collectors should receive, pay, and account for the MONIES Raised toward Maintaining or otherwise Providing for the POOR, according to Assessments, Orders, and Forms, which shall be made, given, or prescribed, by proper Authority; but that they should not OVERSEE the POOR, nor have any Power to direct in what Manner poor People are to be maintained or employed.

Tenth. That neither Parish-Officers, nor Justices of the Peace, should have Power to REMOVE any POOR PERSON, whether *Native* or *Foreigner*, farther than to the next, or to some other House of Maintenance and Employment within the same County, without express Direction for that Purpose, from proper Authority; — *because the Justices of Peace in one County cannot tell what PROPORTIONS of POOR PEOPLE there are in other Counties, and therefore they ought not to REMOVE them at RANDOM.*

These Ten Propositions contain the GROUND-WORK of what I have to propose, for Relieving, Employing, and Ordering THE POOR OF ENGLAND AND WALES; and I think it will be expedient to mention the

the several NATIONAL ADVANTAGES which would be gained by having them carried into Execution; for though most of those Advantages are either dispersedly mentioned already, or will occur to many Persons upon reading the *Propositions*, yet, they ought to appear together; because every Reader will then be better able to judge for himself, and to more easily discover any Mistakes which I may have made in these Matters.

PROPOSITION I. EQUALITY OF POOR'S-RATES.

Every reputable Family would be thereby SECURED from being Ruined or Distressed by enormous *Poor's-Rates*.

All the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants of *England* and *Wales* would then have LIKE SHARES of their *Estates* and *Incomes*, for their own PROPER USES, so far as depends upon the *Poor's-Rates*; instead of having some *Estates* and *Incomes* made of LESS VALUE to their OWNERS, by Two, Three, or more *Shillings* in the *Pound*, than other *Estates* and *Incomes* of like Rent or Amount are made, to the PERSONS who own them.

The COMMODITIES and MANUFACTURES produced or wrought in the different Parts of *England* and *Wales* would then ALL be brought to MARKET upon EQUAL TERMS, so far as depends upon the *Poor's-Rates*; instead of having some *Commodities* loaded with FOUR or more TIMES AS MUCH TAX for the POOR, as is charged on the like Sorts of *Commodities* produced in other Counties; and thereby Raising one Part of the Nation so as to Depress another, without any particular Merit in the Former, or Default in the Latter.

As the general Causes of poor People being thought A NUSANCE, are, the Ruin, Distress, or Disadvantages, which have been brought upon a great Number of wealthy, substantial, or reputable Families, by enormous or very unequal POOR'S-RATES, that ILL EFFECT must wholly or in a great Measure cease when those RATES are made EQUAL; though perhaps not immediately in a due Proportion, because long-established Prejudices do commonly out-live the Reason upon which they were founded.

EQUALITY in the POOR'S-RATES would root out the various Sorts of LOW CUNNING which our present POOR'S-LAWS have put substantial Persons upon practising in their Dealings with *working People*, and by *common Poor*; for worthy Persons would then be secured from the disagreeable Necessity of dealing hardly or craftily with their *Servants*, or by *poor People*, in order to keep themselves and Families from coming to POVERTY; and as to Men who deal hardly by the *Poor* without being under any such Necessity, they would not be able to SAVE One Penny each in Seven Years, by any hard Dealings or low Cunning of this Sort; so that such Practices would

would soon be at an End, when there was not *anything* MORE to be GAINED by THEM than A BAD NAME.

PROPOSITION II. UNIVERSAL CLAIM to RELIEF.

As Multitudes of *working People* are obliged to travel from Parish to Parish, and from County to County, in order to find EMPLOYMENT, proper Maintenance or other Relief ought to be provided for them, *when and where they want it*; because there cannot be a better Motive for their travelling, than a *Desire to get an honest Livelihood*; and therefore they should have all possible Encouragement to persevere in doing what is BEST for the NATION, and for THEM.

Giving every *poor Person* a RIGHT to RELIEF, *when and where he or she shall want it*, would put an End to all LAW-SUITS about the SETTLEMENT of the POOR; which are not only attended with great and fruitless EXPENCE, but are DISGRACES to a Christian Nation: for the Numbers of *poor People* to be maintained, would have been just the same, if there never had been any such Law-Suits; and it ought not to become a Question in A COURT OF JUDICATURE, *Whether the one or the other of TWO PARISHES, should be EXEMPTED from showing COMMON HUMANITY.*

SUCH CONTESTS AS THESE are Burlesques upon Religion, Equity, Humanity, and the Dignity of Judicature; because they furnish Men with Pretences, and in the End, with a legal Justification, for committing Actions which are *irreligious, iniquitous, and inhuman*; inasmuch, that some Men are not ashamed either of the Brutality or the Folly of spending MORE MONEY to get an EXEMPTION from relieving A POOR PERSON, THAN would, with prudent Management, be sufficient to PROVIDE such RELIEF: and, what is worst of all, a poor Person is not SETTLED in the Parish of A, because it is WEALTHIER than the Parish of B, though that be the EQUITABLE RULE to go by, but according to certain Rules and Distinctions which the Defects of Law have left room for ingenious Men to create; of which they have made SO MUCH USE, that, Mr Burn says, there have been more Cases adjudged upon only ONE of our *Poors-Laws*, than upon any other FIFTY LAWS of this Nation. — So true it is, that when REASON *doth not go before* LAW, MISCHIEF is sure to follow after IT.

PROPOSITION III. HOUSES of Maintenance and Employment.

The Number of PARISHES in England and Wales, is about TEN THOUSAND; and the constant irrecoverable Expence of having A WORK-HOUSE in each of them, could not be less, upon a general Average, than *Fifty Pounds a Year*, for House-Rent, for Salaries and Maintenance

Maintenance of a Master and a Mistress to govern and instruct the Poor, and for all incidental Charges attending each Work-House: but as by Statute 9 George I. Chap. 7. Sect. 4. the Inhabitants of Two or more Parishes are impowered to unite in establishing a Work-House for their joint Use, I shall rate the Number of parochial Work-Houses necessary for Employing and Maintaining the Poor of England and Wales, at only FIVE THOUSAND; and the medium annual irrecoverable Expence of each of them, at Fifty Pounds as before mentioned.

At these Rates, the constant irrecoverable Expence of having the POOR parochially Employed and Maintained would amount to no less than Two hundred and Fifty THOUSAND Pounds a Year, exclusive of at least One MILLION of Pounds which must be sunk to build or purchase proper Work-Houses; and the said £ 250,000 a Year would really be so much lost to the wealthy and the substantial People who paid it, as they must give Value, in Corn, Cheese, &c. for whatever Part they afterwards received of such Money; and as to their recovering of it by the Labour of poor People who are employed in Work-Houses, that would be impossible; for such People do very well if, in general, they earn their Meat, Drink, and Cloathing.

So that, the CERTAIN LOSS of Two hundred and Fifty THOUSAND Pounds a Year, — the TIME LOST by Twenty Thousand OVERSEERS of the Poor, in frequently visiting parochial Work-Houses, or in giving necessary Orders, &c. concerning the Business thereof, — and the Difficulty or Expence of procuring in RURAL PARISHES proper Buildings, Materials, Persons, &c. for WORK-HOUSES, do, upon the Whole, make it CHEAPER to the wealthy and the substantial People of England and Wales, to Maintain FIFTY THOUSAND able Poor in IDLENESS, than to set them to WORK.

But this would not be the Case, if Fifty Thousand ABLE POOR were collected into TWO HUNDRED HOUSES of Maintenance and Employment; for though the CHARGE of BUILDINGS might be near or quite as great in this Case as in the other, yet, THREE Parts in FOUR, or a greater Proportion, of the IRRECOVERABLE EXPENCES for Masters and Mistresses to govern and instruct the Poor, and for incidental Charges, might be thereby SAVED: because in the former Case, there must be 5,000 Masters, and 5,000 Mistresses, besides Servants to assist them; whereas in the latter Case, 600 Masters and 400 Mistresses would allow of Three Masters and Two Mistresses to each House of Maintenance and Employment; and they, together with a proportionable Number of Servants under their Direction, would undoubtedly be sufficient to GOVERN AND INSTRUCT, under good Regulations, ALL THE POOR in England and Wales.

Thus might A SAVING of about One hundred and Fifty THOUSAND Pounds a Year be made in the CHARGE of Maintaining the POOR of this NATION; either under the Heads of Salaries and Maintenance for Masters and Mistresses, and of incidental Expences, or by the Labour of able Poor who are now Maintained in Idleness by their Parishes: and as it appears by the printed Account of parochial Work-Houses, already mentioned in Page 59, that many working People who used to have Weekly, &c. Allowances from their Parishes, did rather chuse to be without such ALLOWANCES, than to go into WORK-HOUSES, it is probable there may be some such People in every Parish that hath not a Work-House.

It is likewise probable, from what I have said concerning Parochial Work-Houses in Pages 57, 58, 59, and in the Five preceding Paragraphs, that NINE Parishes in TEN throughout England and Wales have not established WORK-HOUSES; and therefore I think that One hundred THOUSAND Pounds a Year might be saved by the aforesaid Means, under the Head of Weekly, &c. Allowances to working People, as it doth not amount to Five Shillings a Week for each Parish: so that A SAVING of Two hundred and Fifty THOUSAND Pounds a Year, if not of a much greater Sum, might in all Probability be made in the CHARGE of MAINTAINING the POOR of ENGLAND and WALES, by COLLECTING THEM into TWO HUNDRED HOUSES of Maintenance and Employment, and there EMPLOYING THEM in manufacturing such Sorts of LINEN YARN and LINEN CLOTH as are now Imported into GREAT BRITAIN from Countries which do not belong to the BRITISH CROWN.

PROPOSITION IV. All the POOR to be Removed into
HOUSES of Maintenance, &c.

When every POOR PERSON hath an universal Claim to RELIEF, and there are Three, Four, or Five Houses of Maintenance and Employment established in each County, the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants thereof will know WHAT TO DO with all poor People; whether Natives or Strangers, who live or come among them, and it may be VERY SOON DONE; for nothing more would be necessary than to send for the Constable, or other Officer appointed to convey poor People to the HOUSES of Maintenance and Employment, or to the Houses of Confinement and Correction; and when the poor Persons, Beggars, &c. were so conveyed, they would there have proper Relief, if they were real Objects of CHARITY; or, if they were Rogues or Impostors, they would then be punished according to their DESERTS: all which is consistent with RELIGION, HUMANITY, JUSTICE, and GOOD POLICY.

It is now the INTEREST of the Inhabitants of most *Parishes* to keep their *Poor* in IDLENESS, and to have *wandering Beggars* hunted into the next *Parish*, without giving them *proper Relief* or *Punishment*, according to their *Necessities* or *Deserts*; because the *Charge* and *Trouble* thereof will *wholly fall* upon the Inhabitants of that *Parish* where the same is given or *inflicted*: but the Inhabitants of all *Parishes* would then find it their INTEREST to have every *poor Person* EMPLOYED who received PUBLIC RELIEF, and to send every *Beggar* to a *House of Maintenance and Employment*, or to a *House of Confinement and Correction*; because the *Charges* thereof would, in that Case, be *equally borne* by near *Ten Thousand* *Parishes*; whereas if either *poor People* or *wandering Beggars* were maintained OUT of *Houses of Maintenance*, &c. the *Charge* must be *wholly borne* by the *Parishes* which *so maintained* them.

PROPOSITION V. FREE ADMISSION into *Houses of Maintenance*, &c.

As the *Necessities* of *poor People* are best known to themselves, and many *Persons* are in *great Distress* long before the *outward Marks of Poverty* appear upon them, no *Magistrate* or other *Officer* should be allowed to judge whether any *Person* who shall apply to be received into a *House of Maintenance and Employment* ought to be there admitted; for he who *reasons* upon a full *Stomach* about HUNGER, *reasons* upon FALSE PRINCIPLES.

But no *Person* who shall be so received into a *House of Maintenance and Employment*, should be at *Liberty* to leave it, when he chose to go, without the *Knowledge* and *Approbation* of the principal *Officer* therein; for as on the one *Hand*, RELIGION and HUMANITY require, that all DISTRESSED PERSONS be properly RELIEVED; so on the other *Hand*, do GOOD POLICY and JUSTICE require, that ROGUES be DETECTED and brought to PUNISHMENT.

PROPOSITION VI. The SORTS of EMPLOYMENT for the POOR.

There are only TWO *Manufacturies* wherein *Men*, *Women*, and *Children* can be generally *Employed* in ENGLAND, and those are, — The *Woollen Manufactory* — The *Linen Manufactory*.

The WOOLLEN MANUFACTURY is the *Foundation* of our TRADE, WEALTH, and NAVAL POWER; but none of these can be increased by establishing that *Manufactory* in *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*; because the *Numbers* of *People* employed in *Woollen Manufacturies* already established in various *Cities*, *Towns*, and *Parishes* in ENGLAND, are as great as can be therein set to work: so that if such *Manufacturies* were carried on in *Houses of Maintenance*, &c. they would take *Employment* from as many *English People* ELSEWHERE as they THERE *Employed*.

THE LINEN MANUFACTURY is the *PROPER SORT of EMPLOYMENT* for those **POOR PEOPLE** who are *MAINTAINED at the PUBLIC CHARGE*, because it requires *so little SKILL to LEARN*, and *so little STRENGTH to PERFORM* most Parts thereof, that *Women and Children, the Infirm and the Aged*, may be **ALL set to WORK**; and yet there is a Proportion of Employment belonging to the manufacturing of *Linen*, that requires a good deal of Strength to execute, and therefore is very proper for Men who are in Health; so that if an Employment was to be purposely contrived for *poor People*, under the various Circumstances of *Childhood, Manhood, bodily Infirmary, and Old Age*, it could not be better adapted thereto, than the *Linen Manufactory* is.

That Manufactory is also a very proper Sort of Employment for such *poor People*, on account of the **CONSTANT DEMAND** there will be, in all Parts of *England*, for the *Linen Cloth* they shall so make; for that is another of the principal Things which are here to guide in the Choice of Employment; because it is *much cheaper* to Maintain *poor People* in *Idleness*, than to **EMPLOY** them in making *Manufactures* which *cannot be sold*.

The *Linen Manufactory* may likewise be so conducted, as **NOT** to **TAKE EMPLOYMENT** from other *English People* or *British Subjects*; for though there be some *Linen Manufacturies* established in *England*, yet, they are not worth mentioning in a National Sense; and the **PEOPLE of ENGLAND** consume vast Quantities of *Linen Yarn* and *Linen Cloth*, besides what are supplied by the **PEOPLE of SCOTLAND**, and the **PEOPLE of IRELAND**; so that *Linen Manufacturies* may be established in such *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*, **CONSISTENTLY WITH THE COMMON INTEREST OF THE THREE NATIONS**.

For those Manufacturies would be only stop-gap Employment for *poor People*, at such Times as they could not be otherwise Employed, or were not capable of performing other Work; and a continual *Change of Hands*, together with the *Incapacity* arising from *Childhood*, and the *Infirmary* caused by *Sickness* or *Old Age*, would prevent such Manufacturies from being *perfected* or *extended*: for they must be *wholly confined* to the *coarsest Sorts* of *Linen Cloth*, which could not be either *so good* or *so cheap* as the like Sorts made in regularly established Manufacturies; and therefore, the **PEOPLE of ENGLAND** would not buy *more* of such *Linen Cloth* than they were **OBLIGED** either to **USE**, or else to be at the **CHARGE** of Maintaining the **POOR in IDLENESS**.

If a *Farmer* or a *Tradesman* can provide his Family with *Foreign* made coarse *Linen Cloth* at the Expence of *Forty Shillings* a Year, and cannot provide them with *English* made coarse *Linen Cloth* for less than *Fifty Shillings*

per Annum, he will be sure to buy the *Foreign* wrought Cloth, as he can thereby make an annual Saving of *Ten* Shillings: but if he had *Fifty* Shillings a Year to pay for the *POOR'S-RATE* when his Family used *Foreign* Cloth, and was to pay only *Twenty-five* Shillings *per Annum* for the *POOR* when his Family used *English* Cloth, he certainly would buy his *OWN COUNTRY CLOTH*, though it annually cost him *Ten* Shillings *MORE*; because he could thereby make his *Quota* of the *POOR'S-RATES* *Twenty-five* Shillings *per Annum* *LESS*, and consequently, might *SAVE Fifteen Shillings* a Year *UPON THE WHOLE*.

This, or some such *Proportion* of *Saving* would probably be made in the *CHARGE of Maintaining the POOR*, if they were *fully Employed* in manufacturing coarse *Linen Cloth*; and the preceding Paragraph shews, that it would be the *INTEREST* of the wealthy and the substantial People of *England* and *Wales* to support such *Linen Manufacturies* *SO FAR* as to *Employ the Unemployed POOR* who must otherwise be *Maintained in IDLENESS*, *BUT NO FARTHER*.

Some Persons may possibly think that this would be going *TOO FAR* with respect to *Scotland* and *Ireland*, as it may a little interfere with the making of very coarse *Linen Cloth* in those Countries; but if this should be the Case, there is a very safe and proper Remedy; for the Quantities of the finer Sorts of *Linen* consumed in *England*, do vastly exceed the Quantities brought here of such *Linens* from *Scotland* and *Ireland*; and therefore the People of those Countries may remedy the Inconvenience, *if any ensue*, by making *MORE FINE and LESS COARSE LINEN*.

ENGLAND pays a *BOUNTY* of *TEN per Cent.* or *MORE*, on such of the coarser Sorts of *Linen* manufactured in *Scotland* or in *Ireland* as are exported out of this Kingdom, and those *Linens* are thereby brought to *Foreign Markets* upon *very advantageous Terms*: so that I do not see how the good People of those Countries can reasonably object against what is here proposed; especially, as the Overflowings of their common People do *MUCH INCREASE* the Number of *POOR* in *ENGLAND*.

Some other Matters on this Head are mentioned in Pages 8 and 9, which need not be repeated here.

When such of the common *working People* in each County as shall be *out of Place*, and stand in need of *Relief*, are *COLLECTED* into Three, Four, or Five *HOUSES of Maintenance and Employment*, the *Freeholders, Farmers, Tradesmen, &c.* of each Neighbourhood will know *WHERE* to look for *Servants, Labourers, &c.* which will be a general Convenience to both *Masters and Servants*, especially in *Harvest-Time*: and there should be some *REGULATIONS* made, in regard to the *MONEY EARNED for*
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OCCASIONAL WORK, by *Men or Women* sent from *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*, and there received again when such Work is done; for if they earn *Two-pence* a Day each, MORE than their *Maintenance* comes to, and have not been provided with any *Cloathing* at the *Public Charge*, I think that such *Money* **EQUITABLY** belongs to them; but such of those *Men or Women* as shall have been so provided with *Cloathing*, ought in **EQUITY** to pay for the same, out of the *Money* they shall earn as aforesaid.

PROPOSITION VII. *HOUSES of Confinement and Correction.*

Houses of Confinement and Correction will be very necessary Appendages to *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*, as it would not only be **UNJUST** to oblige honest and industrious *poor People* to keep Company with *Rogues*, or even to live in the same Houses, but would likewise be attended with a *Train of EVILS* which should be carefully guarded against: for *Poverty of Circumstances* REMOVES many *mental Obstacles* to ill *Actions*, which good Circumstances make immoveable; and as “*Evil Communication corrupts good Manners*” without the **AID** of **POVERTY**, there cannot be too much Care taken to keep naturally well inclined *poor People* from associating with *Rogues*, or with any other *wickedly disposed Persons*.

MUTINIES in Armies, for which just Cause had not been given, have generally been raised by a few bad Men, and **RIOTS** are commonly begun in the same Manner; so that every practicable Means should be used to prevent Things of the same Kind from being brought about in *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*; and there cannot be any other Means so effectual, as that of having *idle, refractory, and suspected Persons* kept in Houses by themselves: for such Separation would put it out of their Power to corrupt honest and industrious *poor People*, and would likewise induce the Latter to entertain a good Opinion concerning *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*; whereas, if **ROGUES** are confined and punished in those Houses where **HONEST PEOPLE** are Employed and Maintained, the **POOR** will look upon such Houses as **PRISONS**, and consequently must hate them.

The good Opinion, and the Hatred of the **POOR** in this respect, may possibly be made light of; but those Persons who think lightly of them should consider, that neither **MURDERS** nor **ROBBERIES** are light Matters; and that if **RELIEF** be either **WITH-HELD** from **POOR PEOPLE**, or GRANTED upon *Terms which carry REPROACH along with them*, there will in either Case be vast Numbers of *Highwaymen, Thieves, and Prostitutes*; for **POVERTY** doth not make **A GOOD NAME** of less Value to the Owners, and if they cannot preserve it in their own

OPINION,

OPINION, they will *lose it in their own WAY*, or go to another Country : and as to *Gibbets, Halters, and Whipping-posts*, it is unhappily too evident that they do but ill supply the WANT of an *honest Disposition*; for Lord Chief Justice *Hale* said, that “ MORE *suffer* at ONE Sessions at *Newgate*, “ THAN *suffer* in some other Countries for ALL OFFENCES in “ THREE YEARS;” and I fear that the Number of Criminals in this Country hath been greater of late Years, than it was Eighty Years ago.

These Things shew the Necessity of having SEPARATE HOUSES built for the *Confinement and Correction* of *idle, or refractory POOR PEOPLE*, as well as for PERSONS *suspected of Robbery, &c.*; and I cannot help thinking that the *first Degree of Punishment* therein should be, HARD LABOUR and HARD FARE; for those will generally *bring to REASON* such *worthlessly inclined PEOPLE* as are not *incorrigible*, and their LABOUR will *bring PROFIT to the PUBLIC*; but the WHIPPING of them will not *produce any such PROFIT*, nor is it likely to *bring about REFORMATION in the PARTY*, but rather to make bad worse, because it leaves *Disgrace* behind it; and therefore I cannot help admiring the good Policy of the *Dutch*, in placing IDLE PERSONS in such a Situation that they must either WORK or be DROWNED, as they thereby *cure the DISEASE* in every Instance where it is curable, and without *rendering the PATIENT obnoxious or useless to SOCIETY*; whereas our REMEDIES *neither cure the DISEASE, nor prevent OTHERS from falling into IT*, and yet DESTROY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

Hard Labour and hard Fare might likewise be made the Means of preventing a Number of *common People* from committing capital Offences, such as *Stealing of Horses, Sheep, &c.*; for those Sorts of Criminals do generally begin with lesser Matters, such as *Poaching, Robbing of Fish-Ponds, Stealing of Poultry, &c.* and are known to live by *dishonest Practices* long before they are brought to *Punishment*: one Reason whereof, is, that the *Punishments* decreed for those *petty Offences* are MORE SEVERE than the generality of People desire to have inflicted for such *pilfering Thefts*; and therefore they rather chuse to put up with the Loss of a few *Fish or Fowls, &c.* than to have a Man transported for stealing them, especially if he hath a *Wife and Children*.

Now if every common *working Man* by Profession, whose Neighbours know that he neither hath any other *honest Means of living than by LABOUR* nor is often so EMPLOYED, was required to give a satisfactory Account of his Manner of Life, and in Failure thereof, he was to be sent to *beat Hemp, or to do other hard Work, for one or more Months, in a HOUSE of Confinement and Correction*, many of such Men would undoubtedly be thereby prevented from

from committing capital Offences: but the *practising* of *lesser Crimes* with IMPUNITY, leads them on, Step by Step, so that at last they venture to steal *Sheep, Horses, &c.* and then they are *hanged or transported*; whereas if they had been called to an Account *at their first setting out*, and punished with *hard Labour* for *living in Idleness*, they probably would not have ventured to commit capital Offences, but *have taken to honest Courses of Life*.

By the first of these Means, *the LIVES of many SUBJECTS might be PRESERVED, many ROBBERIES and CRUELITIES PREVENTED, and GOOD EXAMPLES set to CHILDREN*; but by the latter Means, *the PARENT is brought to an ignominious DEATH, and his CHILDREN are sure to be WRETCHED, if they do not come to the same END*: so that our POLICY in this respect, amounts to nothing more than a fruitless Endeavour to KILL the TREE by PLUCKING off the LEAVES, which are *sure to be REPLACED the NEXT Year*; whereas the POLICY of the *Dutch*, STRIKES at the ROOT of the EVIL, and they have thereby acquired *such a Degree of SECURITY from ROBBERIES, as the SEVERITY of our LAWS hath not yet brought HERE*.

PROPOSITION VIII. ALL BEGGARS to be sent to Houses of Maintenance and Employment, or to Houses of Confinement and Correction, according to their Behaviour.

Every Person who BEGS, ought to be either *Relieved*, obliged to *work*, or *punished*, and not be suffered to *wander about begging* in so OPULENT and TRADING a Country as *ENGLAND*; but it should first be known *which of those Three Things* are proper to be done, for *Relieving or Punishing POOR PEOPLE at RANDOM*, is a strange Way of proceeding in NATIONAL BUSINESS; and dealing by them according to the Accounts they give of themselves, is proceeding in that Manner, because there is a Possibility of *being WRONG in every INSTANCE*: nay, the Chance of being WRONG is frequently *greater* than the Chance of being RIGHT; for *hard Questions* severely asked, will put *honest poor People* upon giving such Answers as will bring them to the *Whipping-post*, but *oily-tongued Rogues* will *sooth* JUSTICE so as to *escape PUNISHMENT*.

If a Man taken up for FELONY, was to be ACQUITTED or CONDEMNED according to the Account he gave of himself, without either JURY or EVIDENCE, it would alarm the whole Nation; and yet few People are alarmed at seeing A POOR MAN *punished as a THIEF, or as a FELON*, though he hath not been *proved guilty of, or even charged with FELONY or THEFT*: — so very CONSCIENTIOUS are People in regard to INJUSTICE that may come HOME TO THEMSELVES, and so very INDIFFERENT are many of them about INJUSTICE from which they are SECURED.

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HAPPY and **HONOURABLE** would it be for this **NATION**, if instead of branding **BEGGARS** with the Appellation of **ROGUE** and ordering them to be punished as **THIEVES**, Offers were made to them of immediate Maintenance and Employment, in Houses provided for those Purposes, as it would then soon be known whether they deserved **RELIEF** or **PUNISHMENT**; for such of them as were honest and industrious would cheerfully accept of those Offers, the Idle and the *Worthless* would make *Excuses* or *Difficulties*, and the *Rogues* would endeavour to run away; so that the **INNOCENT** and **INDUSTRIOUS** would be thereby **SECURED** from **PUNISHMENT** and **REPROACH**, and the *Worthless* as well as the *Guilty* would become **EVIDENCES** AGAINST THEMSELVES.

PROPOSITION IX. COLLECTORS OF THE POOR'S RATES.

As most of the Persons appointed **OVERSEERS** of the **POOR**, are either *Freeholders, Farmers, Merchants, or Tradesmen*, and have Business of their own to do or give Attention to, it cannot in Reason be expected that they should frequently neglect the *Welfare* of their **FAMILIES** to look after the **POOR** of the **PARISH**; and it is certain that many *Freeholders, Farmers, Tradesmen, &c.* who know how to manage their own Business extremely well, are yet very unfit Persons to *Oversee* the **POOR**; so that those Two Things, together with the Disagreeableness of the Office, do occasion great Neglect and Irregularity in **ORDERING** the **POOR** of **ENGLAND**.

For which Reason, the Business should be made the sole Care of the Persons to whom it is intrusted; and I am persuaded that the *Value* of the **TIME LOST** by about *Twenty Thousand* **OVERSEERS** of the **POOR**, in *Relieving* and *Ordering* them, would be sufficient to **PAY** the **SALARIES** of all the **OFFICERS** necessary to be appointed for those Purposes: but what is most material of all, the **POOR** might and certainly would, in that Case, be well *Relieved, Employed, and Governed*; because it would be the **INTEREST** of the **OFFICERS** who were so appointed to *wholly attend* to their **DUTY**; whereas it is the **INTEREST** and the **DUTY** of **OVERSEERS** of the **POOR** to employ most of their Time in the Business which maintains them and their Families.

Collecting, Paying, and Accounting for the **MONIES** Raised to *Maintain* or otherwise *Provide* for the **POOR**, is a very proper Office to be executed *in Turn* by the substantial Inhabitants of each **Parish** respectively, as it is a great Satisfaction to the Whole, and doth not take up much Time to perform: for the Persons thereunto appointed may make Choice of such Days to collect the **Poor's Rates**, as they can conveniently spare from their own Businesses, and they would not be continually interrupted by People whom they think troublesome, nor be perplexed with a great Number of *Sixpenny Payments*, or with voluminous Accounts; but would order their **POOR** to be

sent to the *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*, and pay their **MONEY** in gross Sums, *half yearly or yearly*, as they settle their Accounts thereof.

It may perhaps be necessary in a few Instances, for **COLLECTORS** of the **POOR'S-RATES** to pay *Monthly Allowances* toward supporting such *industrious Families* as the Justices of Peace, or other proper Officers, shall think it expedient to have so assisted; but there need not, nor should there be many Allowances of this Sort; for if a *labouring Man* hath *more Children* than he can maintain by his *Industry*, it will generally be better to have some of them sent to the *Houses of Maintenance and Employment*, than to pay such **ALLOWANCES**.

PROPOSITION X. REMOVAL OF THE POOR.

POOR PEOPLE should not be **REMOVED** from one *County* or *Parish* to another, without A **NATIONAL REASON**; and their being *born* or having *lived* in other *Counties* or *Parishes*, are not such Reasons; for it is a Matter of Indifference to the **NATION**; whether a *poor Man* or *Woman* be maintained and employed in *Middlesex*, *Northumberland*, or *Cornwall*; but it is not a Matter of Indifference, whether the **NATION** *saves* or *loses* *Twenty Days Labour and Maintenance* of such a *Man* or *Woman*, by not sending, or by sending him or her, from one of those *Counties* to the other; and yet there are *many THOUSAND Pounds* paid away every Year for such Purposes.

But the **LOSS** doth not end there; for as the **COURSE OF REMOVAL** is generally from *Cities* or *Market Towns* to *Rural Parishes*, most of the *poor People* so Removed, are sent from Places where they might be employed or better maintained, to Places which they left for Want of *Employment* or *Maintenance*: so that the **NATION** doth not only *lose the Labour* of such *poor People* during the Times they are in travelling to the *Places of their Settlement*, but likewise a great deal of *Labour* afterwards, by their being confined to *Parishes* where they *cannot be EMPLOYED*, or being driven by ill Treatment to *evil Courses of LIFE*.

There is a *National Reason* for Removing *poor People* from Places in which they **CANNOT** be **EMPLOYED**, to Places in which they **CAN** be set to **WORK**; and for Removing *employed poor People* from *Parishes* where their **LABOUR** is **LESS** profitable, to *Parishes* where it would be **MORE** so; **BECAUSE THE NATION WILL GAIN BY SUCH REMOVALS**: and yet *poor People* should be so distributed in the different *Counties*, as to bear some Sort of *Proportion* to the Number of *substantial Inhabitants* in each *County*; for they are naturally *Riches* and *Strengib* to the Nation, and will be so in Fact, when well ordered; though unhappily, *ill Policy* hath made them a *great Burden* and *Nufance* to many Persons.

CONSTITU-

CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSITIONS.

TRUSTEES AND GOVERNORS of the POOR in each COUNTY.

** I. That such of the Inhabitants of each Parish in *England* or in *Wales* as shall at the Time pay the Poor's-Rate, should Elect out of their own Number, a Person proper for a Trustee and Governor of the Poor ; —
 II. That the several Persons so elected in each County should be Trustees and Governors of the Poor therein, for the Term of Three Years ; —
 III. That in the Fourth Year, one *Third Part* of the Number of Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County should be Replaced by a like Number of New Trustees and Governors elected in the same Manner, and for those Parishes which the Old Trustees and Governors represented ; —
 IV. That in the Fifth Year, another *Third Part* of the said Trustees and Governors in each County should be so Replaced ; — V. That in the Sixth Year, the remaining *Third Part* of the first elected Trustees and Governors should also be Replaced as aforesaid ; — VI. That the like rotary Course of electing Trustees and Governors of the Poor for each County should be continued in every succeeding Year ; — VII. That no Person who had been so elected should be again electable to that Office in less than Nine Years from the Time of his Election ; — VIII. That upon the Death, or Removal into another County or Parish, of any Trustee and Governor of the Poor, a New Trustee and Governor should be chosen for the unexpired Part of the Three Years ; — IX. And, That the Person elected for the Remainder of such Term should not be again electable in less than Six Years after the Expiration thereof.

X. That the Trustees and Governors of the Poor who shall be so Elected in the several Parishes of each County, should have full Power and Authority to Relieve, Employ, and Order all poor People who shall want public Relief therein ; and to perform, or order the Performance of every Matter and Thing thereunto belonging.

XI. That those Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County, should every Year make such an Equal Assessment, by a *Pound-Rate upon the full yearly Rents or Values of the Houses, Lands, &c.* throughout the several Parishes by them represented, as they, or the greater Part of them, shall think necessary to pay the Charge of Maintaining or otherwise Providing

** Numerical Figures are prefixed to these Propositions that they may be referred to, but the Figures should not be read with the Propositions, as reading of the Former will interrupt the Sense of the Latter.

for

for the poor People who shall at the Time want public Relief within each County respectively; and for other Purposes herein after mentioned.

XII. That the said Trustees and Governors should direct the Application of all Monies raised as aforesaid; excepting such Parts thereof as it shall from Time to Time be necessary for the Inhabitants of some Counties to contribute toward the Charge of Maintaining or otherwise Providing for the Poor in other Counties, to the End that the Whole of the said Charge may at all Times be equally borne by the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants of England and Wales. . . . See the 42^d Proposition.

XIII. That the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County should determine, what Number of Houses of Maintenance and Employment and Houses of Confinement and Correction it will be expedient to have built therein; — XIV. What Market-Towns are most conveniently situated and provided for those Purposes; — XV. Where such Houses may be most commodiously erected; — XVI. What Quantity of Land should be annexed to each of those Houses; — XVII. And, In what Manner the same should be builded, fitted up, furnished, &c.

XVIII. That the said Trustees and Governors should be impowered to borrow Money to enable them to purchase necessary Portions of Land for Houses of Maintenance and Employment, and for Houses of Confinement and Correction, within each County; — XIX. Likewise, to pay the Charges of building such Houses, and of providing proper Materials and Implements for employing the poor People who shall be therein Maintained; — XX. That the Interest of the Money borrowed for those Purposes should be paid out of the Money raised for Maintaining, &c. the Poor in each County respectively; — XXI. That the principal Sums so borrowed should likewise be paid out of the same Fund, by annual Repayments not exceeding Ten per Cent. per Annum of the Principal, until the Whole shall be repaid; — XXII. And, that those Trustees and Governors should raise the Poor's-Rates so as to enable them to make the said several Payments, &c.

XXIII. That where there shall be proper Buildings already erected; or such as may at a small Expence be made proper for Houses of Maintenance and Employment, as some parochial Work-Houses or other Buildings probably are, the said Trustees and Governors should be impowered to purchase such Buildings, and any Lands or other Things thereunto belonging, which they shall think it expedient to have bought for the Purposes aforesaid.

XXIV. That the said Trustees and Governors should establish such Offices as they shall think necessary, either for Relieving, Employing, Ordering, and Governing of the Poor in each County respectively, or for the Performance of any other Business thereunto belonging, excepting the Office

Office of Collector of the Poor's-Rates ; — XXV. That they should appoint to and remove from all Offices which shall be so established ; — XXVI. And, that they should fix the Salaries or Wages of the Persons appointed to perform the same.

XXVII. That the said Trustees and Governors should be impowered to make, establish, and alter RULES AND ORDERS for the better Relieving, Employing, Ordering, and Governing of the Poor within each County respectively ; and also, for the Guidance and Direction of all Officers by them appointed for any of the said Purposes, or for any other Business relative thereto.

XXVIII. That the said Trustees and Governors, in each County respectively, should be impowered to bind Apprentices, to such Trades and Persons as they shall think proper, all poor Children who shall be Maintained at the Public Charge, or shall be under such Circumstances, that Public Care ought to be taken of their Education.

COMMISSIONERS *for the* POOR of ENGLAND AND WALES.

XXIX. That the Trustees and Governors of the Poor for each County should in Turn Elect out of their own Number, Three Persons proper for Commissioners for the Poor of *England and Wales* ; — XXX. That there should always be Nine such Commissioners ; — XXXI. That the first Nine of those Commissioners should be elected in and for the Counties of *Bedford, Berks, and Buckingham* ; — XXXII. That all of them should continue in Commission for the Term of Three Years ; — XXXIII. That in the Fourth Year, the Three Commissioners for the County of *Bedford* should be Replaced by Three Commissioners elected for the County of *Cambridge* ; — XXXIV. That in the Fifth Year, the Three Commissioners for *Berkshire* should be Replaced by the like Number of Commissioners elected for *Cheshire* ; — XXXV. That in the Sixth Year, the Three Commissioners for the County of *Buckingham* should be Replaced by Three others elected for the County of *Cornwal* ; — XXXVI. That the like rotary Course of electing Commissioners for the Poor of *England and Wales* should be annually continued until each County, in alphabetical Order, had elected Three such Commissioners ; — XXXVII. That the Right of such Election should then revolve again through the several Counties in the same order of Succession as before, &c. ; — XXXVIII. And, that upon the Death, or Removal into another County, of any Commissioner, another should be chosen in his Stead, by the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in that County for which the deceased or removed Commissioner was elected.

XXXIX. That the Commissioners for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* should reside in *London*, or in *Westminster*; — **XL.** That the said Commissioners should appoint a Secretary and such a Number of Clerks as they shall find necessary to assist in performing the Business under their Charge; — **XLI.** That an Office should be established for those Commissioners to meet and transact the said Business in, and for the safe-keeping of such Books and Papers relating to the Poor of *England* and *Wales*, as it shall be requisite to have preserved in that Office.

XLII. That the Nine Commissioners for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* for the Time being, and not less than Seven of them, should be empowered to ascertain what Sum and Sums of Money the Inhabitants of any one or more of some Counties should from Time to Time pay to the Inhabitants of any one or more of other Counties, so that the whole Charge of Maintaining or otherwise Providing for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* may at all Times be equally borne by the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants thereof.

XLIII. That the said Commissioners for the Time being, and not less than Seven of them, should be empowered to direct the Removal, out of any one County into any other County, of such poor People maintained at the Public Charge as it shall from Time to Time be expedient to have removed into other Counties, to the End that the Number of poor People so maintained in each County, may generally be near the Proportion which the wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants thereof should maintain.

XLIV. That as soon as the Poor's-Rate for the Year shall be fixed in each County, and the Books of the Assessment thereof be completed, the Trustees and Governors of the Poor therein should cause an Abstract of the said Rate to be made, according to the Form N^o I. at the End of this Book; which Abstract a Committee of those Trustees and Governors should examine by the Books of Assessment, and upon finding the same to be just, or after it shall be made so, Six of those examining Trustees and Governors should sign that Abstract, and transmit the same to the Commissioners for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* at their Office in *London*; — **XLV.** That within One Week after 24 *June*, the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County should annually send to the Commissioners for the Poor, as aforesaid, an Account of all the poor Boys and Girls who shall have been bound Apprentices by the said Trustees and Governors, at the Public Charge, within the preceding Twelve Months; which Account should express the Names of the several Boys and Girls so bound, the Names, Places of Residence, and Trades or Professions of the Persons to whom they shall be bound, the Sum of Money paid with each Boy or Girl, and should be signed by Six of those Trustees and Governors.

XLVI. That on the last Day of every Month, excepting when it shall be on a Sunday, the proper Officer in each House of Maintenance and Employment should make and send to the Commissioners for the Poor of *England and Wales*, an Account of the Numbers of Men and Women, and of the Numbers of Boys and Girls above Fourteen Years of Age, who shall at the Time be therein maintained, and be in Health and Strength; expressing how many Men, and how many Women of the said Numbers were brought up to, or have usually maintained themselves by common Trades, or Employments, &c. according to the Form N^o II.

XLVII. That when any reputable Householder in any Parish shall want such a Sort of Manufacturer, Artificer, Man-Servant, or Woman-Servant for Six Months or more, or such a Boy or Girl for an *Apprentice*, as cannot be met with in the same Parish, the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for that Parish might be desired to certify the said Want, by Letter or otherwise, to the proper Officer at the nearest House of Maintenance and Employment; and if no such Person as is so wanted, shall at the Time be therein maintained, the said Want should be minuted at the Bottom of the next Monthly Account sent from that House of Maintenance and Employment to the Commissioners for the Poor of *England and Wales*, as mentioned in the 46th Proposition and exemplified in the Form N^o II.; Upon Receipt of which Account, the Secretary, or Clerks of the said Commissioners should look into the Monthly Accounts sent from other Houses of Maintenance and Employment, for Memorandums of such Manufacturers, Artificers, &c. then wanting Employment *in their proper Professions* as shall be wanted as aforesaid; and upon finding where there are any such Persons, Notice of such of them as shall be nearest to the Parish where one is wanted, should be immediately sent to the proper Officer at that House of Maintenance and Employment from whence the Want of such a Person was certified; which Notice should be forwarded to that Trustee and Governor of the Poor who granted a Certificate of the said Want, that he might acquaint the Householder who wanted such a Servant, where one or more of the Sort required might be found.

XLVIII. That Three of the Commissioners for the Poor of *England and Wales* for the Time being, and such Three as shall each of them have been elected for a different County, should every Summer visit all the Houses of Maintenance and Employment for the Poor thereof; — **XLIX.** That those visiting Commissioners should be accompanied by a Physician and a Surgeon of Eminence, and by a Person well skilled in the Linen Manufactory; — **L.** That the said Commissioners, Physician, Surgeon, and Person skilled as aforesaid, should each of them be provided with a proper Book wherein

to enter Accounts, Memorandums, &c. of the several Things which it shall be necessary for them to have, or to take Notice of, in every or any House of Maintenance and Employment by them so visited; — LI. That the Three Commissioners, and the Person skilled in the Linen Manufactory, should visit every Ward or other Apartment wherein healthful poor People shall at the Time be Employed or Maintained, and each of those Commissioners should enter in his Book, the Numbers of such People in the several Wards of every House of Maintenance and Employment, and the Numbers of People in every House of Confinement and Correction, according to the Form N^o III.; — LII. That the visiting Physician and the visiting Surgeon, accompanied by the Physician and the Surgeon belonging to each House of Maintenance and Employment respectively, should visit all the poor People in the Sick Wards thereof, and should prescribe better Remedies, or more proper Methods of Treatment, for such of the sick, wounded, or maimed Poor as shall not, in the Judgment of the visiting Physician or Surgeon, be so well taken Care of as they might be; — LIII. That after having so done, they should enter in their Books, an Account of the Numbers of sick People in each Ward, and also Memorandums of such Physical, or Chirurgical Observations as it may be proper to have taken Notice of afterwards; — LIV. That the said Physician and Surgeon should immediately make a Report of those Matters to the visiting Commissioners; — LV. That the proper Officer in each House of Maintenance and Employment should make and deliver to one of the visiting Commissioners, an Account of such poor Men, Women, and Children therein Maintained at that Time, as were born in other Counties, or Countries, according to the Form N^o IV.; — LVI. That any Mismanagement which either the visiting Commissioners, Physician, Surgeon, or Person skilled in the Linen Manufactory, shall observe in any House of Maintenance and Employment, or in any House of Confinement and Correction, should be taken Notice of to the principal Officer under whose Direction the same shall be, and a better Method of Procedure be pointed out, or better Management recommended, as the Case shall require.

LVII. That when the annual Visitation of all the Houses of Maintenance and Employment shall be completed, the visiting Commissioners, Physician, Surgeon, and Inspector of the Linen Manufacturies, should sign and deliver to the Secretary of the Commissioners for the Poor, when all those Commissioners or Seven of them at least are assembled, the several Books of Accounts and Memorandums taken as aforesaid; — LVIII. That the said Secretary, with the Assistance of proper Clerks should form

A General Account of the Poor's-Rates in the several Counties of *England* and

and *Wales*, and of the Numbers of poor People therein Maintained, or otherwise Provided for at the Public Charge, in the current Year, according to the Form N^o V. ; — LIX. That when such an Account shall be completed, and hath been examined by the Secretary and Clerks, every Article therein should be again examined by the Commissioners, in the Presence of at least Seven of them, by the Book or Account from whence it was first copied, and when all the Articles are found to be right, or shall be made so, Two Copies fairly written of the said Account should each of them be compared with the examined Copy thereof, in the Presence of at least Seven Commissioners as afore said, and when found to be true Copies, both of them should be signed by every Commissioner who was present at the said Examinations ; — LX. That one of those Copies should be written upon Vellum, and be preserved in the Office ; — LXI. That by the other Copy there should be as many Copies printed as there shall be Houses of Maintenance and Employment for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* ; — LXII. That a printed Copy of every such General Account should annually, and as soon as completed, be sent to the principal Officer in each of those Houses, there to be carefully kept ; *to the End that the Trustees and Governors of the Poor for each County may at all Times know the State of the Poor, the Poor's-Rates, &c. in every other County, and not have any Reason to entertain Suspensions of Mismanagement.*

LXIII. That such a General Account as is mentioned in the 58th Proposition, should be the Standard whereby to annually ascertain the **EQUITABLE PROPORTIONS** which the Inhabitants of the several Counties in *England* and *Wales* ought to pay toward the **WHOLE CHARGE** of Maintaining or otherwise Providing for the Poor thereof, in each Year ; — LXIV. That such a General Account should likewise be the Standard whereby to annually ascertain, what Numbers of poor People ought to be **REMOVED** out of some Counties into other Counties, so that the Inhabitants of each County may have their proper Proportions of Poor to Maintain ; — LXV. That the Commissioners for the Poor of *England* and *Wales*, and not less than Seven of them, should accordingly ascertain the afore said Proportions of the Charge of Maintaining, &c. the Poor, and signify to the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County respectively, what Sums of Money they are severally to pay or receive on that Account, at the same Time specifying, to whom the said Sums are to be paid, or of whom they are to be received ; — LXVI. That the said Commissioners, and not less than Seven of them, should accordingly ascertain what Numbers of poor People are to be Removed out of some Counties into other Counties, and signify to the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in those Counties,

what Numbers of Poor they are to send to, or receive from other Counties; at the same Time specifying the Counties to which those poor People are to be sent, or the Counties from which they are to be received; — LXVII. That unmarried poor People should be Removed to the Counties in which they were born, or shall have Relations living at the Time, *so often as the same can be done conveniently, and without much Expence*; — LXVIII. That married poor People, and their Children, should be Removed to the County where the Husband was born, unless the Wife was born in another County and had Relations there living who shall at the Time be more likely to assist them; — LXIX. That a Widower, or a Widow, and his or her Children, should be Removed according to the same Rules; — LXX. That whenever it shall be necessary to Remove any *poor Foreigners* out of *England* and *Wales*, they should be sent, *at the joint Charge of all the Counties thereof*, to those Foreign Countries in which they were born, or from whence they came into the *British* Dominions; — LXXI. And, that such of those *poor Foreigners* as had not misbehaved here, should be allowed a small Sum of Money to subsist them after their Arrival in the Countries to which they shall be so sent.

LXXII. That no Person, whether Native or Foreigner, should be punishable for begging; but that every Person who begs, should be sent to a House of Maintenance and Employment; and that if any begging Person shall either refuse, or endeavour to avoid being so sent, such Person should be carried by Force to a House of Confinement and Correction; or, in Case of Escape, he or she should be advertised; as is already mentioned in the *Eighth* Fundamental Proposition.

LXXIII. That every *English* Man or Woman who shall beg, and be brought into a House of Confinement and Correction, for having refused, or endeavoured to avoid being sent to a House of Maintenance and Employment, should be immediately required to tell his or her Name, Place of Birth, last Residence, Trade or Profession, &c. all which Particulars should be entered in a Register-Book to be kept for that Purpose; —

LXXIV. That the principal Officer in such House of Confinement and Correction should send by the first Post, one Copy of the said Particulars to the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for that Parish wherein the confined Person said he or she was born; and another Copy thereof should be sent to the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for that Parish wherein such Person said he or she last resided; at the same Time desiring those Trustees and Governors to inquire, whether the said Person was born or had resided in their Parishes, whether he or she had there behaved well, or had committed any punishable Crimes, and to return by the first Opportunity such Answers

as they shall have to the said Inquiries; — LXXV. That if the Account given by such confined Person of him or herself shall appear by those Answers to be true, and the said Person is reputed to have lived by honest Industry, he or she should be immediately discharged from that House of Confinement and Correction; — LXXVI. That if the said Account shall appear to be true, but it shall also appear that the Person who gave the same, is reputed to be idle and worthless, he or she should then be continued in the House of Confinement and Correction for Months, and be there kept to hard Labour; — LXXVII. That if the said Account shall appear to be false, the Person who gave it should be continued in Confinement as one that is suspected of having committed a Robbery, or some other punishable Crime, and an Advertisement describing his or her Person, &c. should be Three Times inserted in some of the *London Evening News Papers*; — LXXVIII. That the future Treatment of a Person who shall so give a false Account of him or herself, should be regulated by the Laws now in Force, excepting the Poor's-Laws; — LXXIX. That any Person who shall be brought into a House of Confinement and Correction as aforesaid, and shall there refuse, for Three Days successively, to give an Account of him or herself, should be treated in all Respects as one that gave a false Account; excepting such Person shall manifestly appear to be an Idiot by some Act previous to his or her Confinement, or shall not be at Years of Discretion, or shall with Reason be thought not to have been born in either *England or Wales*.

LXXX. That such begging Persons as shall be brought into Houses of Confinement and Correction for having refused, or endeavoured to avoid being sent to Houses of Maintenance and Employment, and shall by their Language, Dialect, Pronunciation, or other Circumstances, be thought not to have been born in *England or in Wales*, should be immediately required to tell their Names, Places of Birth, last Residence, Trades or Professions, &c.

— LXXXI. That any such Person who shall give an Account of him or herself, and shall willingly work, should be continued in Confinement for Months, and then be discharged; provided it shall not appear upon Inquiry, as mentioned in the *Seventy-fourth* Proposition, that the said Person hath given a false Account of him or herself, so far as can be known in *England or in Wales*; — LXXXII. That any such Person who shall either give a false Account of him or herself, or not give a satisfactory Account, or shall refuse to work when thereunto reasonably appointed, should be deemed an unfit Person to stay in this Country; and, in consequence thereof, should be sent by the first Opportunity to the Country wherein he or she was born, or came from into *England or Wales*; and if any such Person shall

refuse

refuse to give the necessary Information for that Purpose, he or she should be transported to some of the *British Colonies*; — LXXXIII. That if any such Person, who shall have been so sent to his or her native, &c. Country, doth ever return into either *England* or *Wales*, the Punishment should be, Transportation for Life; and every Person so sent to another Country should, at the Time of sending, be told thereof.

LXXXIV. That every Person, whether Native or Foreigner, who hath begged, or shall at the Time be Maintained at the Public Charge, and be sent to a House of Confinement and Correction, should there be kept to hard Labour, or to such other Work as he or she shall be apparently capable of performing; — LXXXV. That the first Refusal there to work should be punished by allowing the Person so refusing, only *Bread* and *Water* to live upon, for Three Days and Three Nights; — LXXXVI. That the second Refusal to work, should be punished by placing the Person so refusing, in such a Situation, that he or she must either work or stand Chin-deep in cold Water, for as long a Time as a Physician or a Surgeon, after seeing the idle Person, shall think may be done without endangering Life; — LXXXVII. That if after being so punished Three Times at proper Intervals, any *English* Man or Woman, justly confined as aforesaid, shall still refuse to work, he or she should be brought before the Justices of the Peace for the County, in their next Quarter Sessions, and be by them ordered to be Transported to some of the *British Colonies*, for Seven Years; — LXXXVIII. That no Beggar, or poor Person maintained at the Public Charge, should be committed to, punished in, or discharged from, a House of Confinement and Correction, without a Warrant from a Justice of the Peace, or from a Trustee and Governor of the Poor; — LXXXIX. And, that a Register should be kept in each House of Confinement and Correction of all Punishments there inflicted, expressing the Offenders Names and Crimes, and by whose Warrant they were punished.

XC. That any common working Man who shall either kill *Game*, rob *Fish-Ponds*, or steal *Poultry*, &c. not amounting in real Value to . . . Shillings, should be committed to a House of Confinement and Correction for One Month, and there be kept to hard Labour; — XCI. That any such Man who shall again offend in either of those Ways, and within the prescribed Extent of Value, should be Three Months confined and kept to hard Labour as aforesaid; — XCII. That for the Third Offence, he should be confined, &c. Six Months; — XCIII. And, that for the Fourth Offence, he should be Transported to some of the *British Colonies* for Seven Years.

XCIV.

XCIV. That any common working Man by Profession, who shall be known not to have any other honest Means of living than by Labour, and not to be so often at work as is necessary to maintain himself, and Family if he hath any, should be summoned to appear before the nearest Justice of the Peace, and there be required to give a satisfactory Account how he lived; in Failure whereof, he should be committed to a House of Confinement and Correction, for One Month, and there be kept to hard Labour; — XCV. That if any such Man after being released, shall return to his former bad Course of Life, and subsist for the most Part by other Means than honest Industry, he should be again committed as aforesaid, and for a longer Time, &c.

XCVI. That any common working Man, whether Manufacturer, Artificer, Husbandman or Labourer, whose Wife or Children shall become chargeable to the Public by his leaving her or them, should be summoned before a Justice of the Peace, and there be required to allow a reasonable Proportion of his Wages toward the Maintenance of his Wife and Children, or of either of them; which Money so allowed should be paid monthly to the Collector of the Poor's-Rate for that Parish wherein the Husband shall reside, and Notice thereof be given by the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for such Parish, to the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for that Parish where the Wife and Children, or either of them, shall reside; to the End that she or they may receive from the Collector of the Poor's-Rate there, such Sums of Money as shall be so paid in the other Parish, for her or their Use; but if the Money so allowed by a working Man shall not be sufficient to prevent his Wife and Children, or either of them, from wanting Public Relief; or if she be a disorderly Woman, or they not arrived at Years of Discretion, or the Elder of them not fit to take Care of the Younger ones, they should be maintained at the Public Charge, and the Money so paid by the Husband should be applied toward defraying the said Charge; — XCVII. That if any such working Man shall refuse to contribute what he may reasonably spare out of his Wages toward maintaining his Wife and Children, or either of them, he should be committed to a House of Confinement and Correction for One Month, and there be kept to hard Labour; — XCVIII. That any such Man should be so committable once in every Year, so long as he shall be able to contribute as aforesaid, and shall refuse to do it.

XCIX. That any of the Punishments mentioned in the 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95 and 97th Propositions should be commutable in Time of War, for Years Service in His Majesty's *Navy*, or *Army*, in every Instance where the Justice or Justices of the Peace shall think such Commutation will be proper.

C. That the Father and the Grandfather, the Mother and the Grandmother, the Children, and the Brothers and Sisters, of every poor Person not able to work, or such of them as shall be of Ability to maintain their said poor Relation, should either maintain him or her at their own Charge; or pay to the Collector of the Poor's-Rate for the Parish wherein they shall dwell, such a Sum of Money, every Year and at one Payment, as the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in the County shall adjudge to be sufficient to defray the Charge of maintaining that poor Person. — *This Proposition is an Extention of the Seventh Section of Statute 43 Elizabeth, Chap. 2.*

CI. That the Persons who shall be appointed Collectors of the Poor's-Rates, as is already mentioned in the Ninth Fundamental Proposition, should enter upon that Office on the 30th of September: for that will be the next Quarter-Day after visiting the Houses of Maintenance and Employment, and seems to be the most convenient Time for closing each Year's Account of the Charge of Maintaining, &c. the Poor, and for the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County to have a general Meeting to fix the Poor's-Rate; because they may by that Time know, what Numbers of poor People, and what Sums of Money they are to send to, or receive from other Counties, which Matters will enable them to determine upon a proper Rate for the Year to come, and Autumn is generally a good Season for travelling.

CII. That any Person whose House, Land, &c. shall be over-rated in the Book of Assessment for the Poor, should complain thereof to the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for that Parish wherein such House, Land, &c. is situated, who should farther inform himself of the Matter, and make a Report of it to the other Trustees and Governors of the Poor in the County, at their next Meeting; — CIII. That if the Person so over-rated shall not chuse to abide by what those Trustees and Governors shall determine in regard to the said Over-rate, he should have a Right of Appealing to the Justices of Peace for the County, in their next Quarter-Sessions, where the Matter should be finally determined; — CIV. That all Grievances, Disputes, &c. which relate either to the Poor, or to the Poor's-Rates in any County, and may with Propriety be taken Cognizance of and redressed, or adjusted by the Trustees and Governors of the Poor therein, should be cognizable and determinable by them; reserving to the Party dissatisfied with any such Determination, a Right of Appealing to the Justices of Peace for the County, in their next Quarter-Sessions.

CV. That

INSPECTORS - GENERAL *for the* POOR of ENGLAND AND WALES.

CV. That when Houses of Maintenance and Employment, and Houses of Confinement and Correction shall be built, and the Poor be therein provided for, in the Manner here proposed, the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County, should annually elect out of their own Number, a Person proper for an Inspector-General for the Poor of *England and Wales*; — CVI. That the Persons so elected in the several Counties should meet every Summer, in *London* or in *Westminster*; — CVII. That the Inspectors-General for the Poor of *England and Wales*, when so assembled, should examine and allow, or disallow, of any Accounts relating to the Poor, and should take Cognizance of any Mismanagement in Relieving, Employing, Ordering, or Governing of them; — CVIII. That for the more regular and orderly conducting of their Business, those Inspectors-General should chuse out of their own Number, a President and an Honorary Secretary; — CIX. That they should then require the Commissioners for the Poor to lay before them, the Inspectors-General, the several Books of Accounts, Memorandums, and Observations, taken or made by the Three visiting Commissioners, Physician, Surgeon, and Inspector of Linen Manufacturies, at their Visitation of the Houses of Maintenance and Employment, and Houses of Confinement and Correction, in the preceding Summer; — CX. That all the said Memorandums and Observations should be read to the Inspectors-General, and not to less than Forty of them, by their Honorary Secretary; — CXI. That a Minute should be taken, in a Book for that Purpose, of every such Memorandum or Observation as any one of the Inspectors General shall, at the Time of reading thereof, say he thinks material, provided that the Majority of the Inspectors-General then present are not of the contrary Opinion; — CXII. That when all such of those Memorandums and Observations as shall be adjudged material, are entered in the Minute-Book, those Inspectors-General, and not less than Forty-one of them, should consider what is proper to be done in the Matter or Thing to which each of those Memorandums or Observations shall severally relate, and their Determination thereon should be binding and final; — CXIII. That the Commissioners for the Poor should then be required to lay before the Inspectors-General, a Copy of the General Account of the Poor and the Poor's-Rates for the preceding Year, together with Copies of all material Accounts and Papers relating to the State of the Poor in the said Year; —

CXIV. That

CXIV. That the Inspectors-General should examine, or cause to be examined by such Persons and in such Manner as they shall think proper to appoint and direct, the said General Account and any other Accounts relating to the Poor in the preceding Year; — CXV. That if any Errors shall be discovered in the said Accounts, the Inspectors-General should direct the Commissioners for the Poor to rectify the same in their Accounts for the succeeding Year; — CXVI. That when the Commissioners Accounts for the preceding Year are found to be right, or shall be made so, Nine Certificates thereof should be written upon Vellum, and be signed by the greater Part of the Inspectors-General for the Poor of *England* and *Wales*; — CXVII. That those Certificates should be delivered to the Nine Commissioners for the Poor of *England* and *Wales*, during the said Year, and be to each and every of them a final Acquittance and Discharge from all Matters and Things by them performed, or ordered to be performed, within such Year, and in the Capacity aforesaid; — CXVIII. That the Inspectors-General should last of all take into Consideration such Things of National Concern in regard to the Poor, as any of them shall have to propose; — CXIX. That when a Thing so proposed shall be by them adjudged to be of National Utility, each Inspector-General for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* should take an Account thereof, and lay it before the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in the County for which he was so elected; — CXX. That no Person who shall have been elected an Inspector-General for the Poor of *England* and *Wales*, should be again electable to that Office in less than Nine Years from the Time of his Election.

CXXI. That upon the Election of any Trustee and Governor of the Poor for a Parish, to the Office of a *Commissioner* or an *Inspector-General* for the Poor of *England* and *Wales*, another Trustee and Governor of the Poor should be elected for such Parish; — CXXII. That in the Absence of the Trustee and Governor of the Poor for any Parish, the Minister of such Parish should make Inquiries concerning the Characters of poor People detained in Houses of Confinement and Correction, &c. as mentioned in the *Seventy-fourth* Proposition.

CXXIII. That every poor Person who shall want Relief, should be equally intitled thereto, in any City, Town, Parish, or extraparochial Place, &c. as mentioned in the *Second* Fundamental Proposition.

CXXIV. That all distressed Persons, whether *Natives* or *Foreigners*, who shall apply to be received into any House of Maintenance and Employment, should be immediately admitted, &c. as mentioned in the *Fifth* Fundamental Proposition.

CXXV. That

CXXV. That such of the poor People maintained at the Public Charge, as shall at the Time be capable of working, should be chiefly employed in the *Linen Manufactory*, &c. as mentioned in the *Sixth* Fundamental Proposition.

CXXVI. That when Houses of Maintenance and Employment, and Houses of Confinement and Correction, shall have been established Three Years, the Inspectors-General for the Poor of *England* and *Wales* should take into Consideration the RULES AND ORDERS made for the better Relieving, Employing, Ordering, and Governing of the Poor in each County respectively; — CXXVII. That from those several Rules and Orders the then Inspectors-General should select such Parts thereof as they, or the Majority of them, shall think best calculated to answer the Ends for which the same were made, and such as, in their Opinions, may be established and observed in the several Counties of *England* and *Wales*, without producing material Disadvantages or Inconveniences in any County; — CXXVIII. That a Copy of the Rules and Orders which shall be so selected, should be laid before the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in each County, for them to consider, and to signify their Approbation or Disapprobation of the several Articles therein; — CXXIX. That at the Meeting of the Inspectors-General for the Poor in the next Year, each of those Articles should be read to them, and every Inspector-General should then say whether the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in the County for which he was elected, approved or disapproved thereof; — CXXX. That such of the said Articles as shall relate to Matters of *Equity*, *Good Policy*, or *Humanity*, and shall be approved of by the Trustees and Governors of the Poor in the greater Number of Counties, should be established and observed in all the Counties; — CXXXI. That in other Matters, no Article should be universally established that did not meet with universal Approbation; — CXXXII. And, that such RULES AND ORDERS for the better Relieving, Employing, Ordering, or Governing of the Poor in *England* and *Wales* as shall upon sufficient Experience be found to be proper in every County thereof, should be made A LAW OF THIS REALM.

These One Hundred and Thirty-two PROPOSITIONS constitute THE SYSTEM OF POLICY that I most humbly propose for *Relieving, Employing, and Ordering* the POOR of *ENGLAND* AND *WALES*; and as most Parts thereof differ widely from our present Policy with regard to the Poor, it will be expedient for me to say something in support of the principal Matters here offered; for though the Propriety or Impropriety of each of these Propositions will be very evident to a Number of Persons, yet, that is not likely to be the Case with every Reader; and therefore I shall take

the

the Liberty of contrasting our PRESENT METHODS of Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the POOR, with the METHODS HEREIN PROPOSED for those several Purposes.

Our Present Methods.

The Proposed Methods.

1. These are such as might have been expected if the People of England had lived under Ten Thousand distinct Governments.
2. These create as many opposite and false Interests with regard to the Poor, as there are Parishes in England and Wales.
3. These have separated the Poor into such small Numbers that the cheapest Way of maintaining most of them, is, in Idleness.
4. These permit the Poor to be so employed as to make other English People poor, by taking Employment from them.
5. These impoverish the Nation, by causing great Numbers of poor People to be maintained in Idleness who are able to work.
6. These take several Shillings more in the Pound out of some Estates than out of others, to the Ruin or Distress of many Families.
7. These have brought many Trading Towns to Decay, by obliging them to maintain enormous Proportions of poor People.
8. These make our Manufactures as much dearer than need to be, as Trading Towns pay more than their equitable Quotas for the Poor.
9. These expose some honest and industrious poor People to perish for Want, others to be punished as Thieves, and force many to Steal.
1. These are accommodated to the political State of England under one general Government and a most potent Sovereign.
2. These would unite in one common and true Interest with regard to the Poor, all the substantial and weak by People of England and Wales.
3. These would collect the Poor into such considerable Numbers that the cheapest Way of maintaining them, would be, at Work.
4. These shew how all the Poor may be employed, without taking Employment from other English People or British Subjects.
5. These would enrich the Nation, by employing poor People to make such Manufactures as we now pay Money for to other Nations.
6. These would secure to every Family a like Proportion of their Estate or Income for their own Use, and prevent all such Ruin or Distress.
7. These would protect all our Trading Towns from any such Decay, and give to each of them a fair Chance of thriving.
8. These would turn the Tables upon other Countries, by making their Manufactures as much dearer as ours would be cheaper.
9. These would secure all honest poor People from perishing for Want, from being punished as Thieves, and from the Necessity of Stealing.

10. These

Our Present Methods.

10. These are not so formed as to make the Detection of begging Rogues practicable, and decree all Beggars to be Rogues alike.
11. These discourage working People from marrying, by a Want of due Care and Provision for working Families when they come to Poverty.
12. These put substantial Persons upon driving poor People into other Counties or Parishes, and upon discouraging the Increase of them.
13. These have by the said Means much accelerated the Depopulation caused by monopolizing of Farms and the Inclosure of common Lands.

The Proposed Methods.

10. *These would make the Detection of begging Rogues very practicable, and prevent Punishment from going before Guilt.*
11. *These would secure to all working People and their Children, a comfortable Maintenance, and thereby encourage others to marry.*
12. *These would make substantial Persons desirous of having more than their Proportions of poor People, and consequently of their Increase.*
13. *These though not powerful enough to prevent such Depopulation, would nevertheless retard in a considerable Degree the future Progress of it.*

This seems to me to be the most concise, plain, and effectual Way of supporting the principal Matters here offered for *Relieving, Employing, and Ordering* the POOR of *ENGLAND* and *WALES*; for by this Contrast any Person may easily see what a long Train of political, pecuniary, and commercial LOSSES our *present Methods* of Relieving and Ordering the POOR have brought upon this NATION: and as to the great Number of NATIONAL ADVANTAGES therein attributed to the *proposed Methods*, they would naturally flow from a greater Consonance to *Religion, Justice, Humanity, and Good Policy*; but I shall connect those several Advantages with the Propositions, &c. upon which they depend, and then every Reader will be better able to judge whether I have attributed to the Matters here offered, more Advantages than belong to them.

1. *The proposed POLICY is accommodated to the political State of ENGLAND, &c. . . . for it would make THE CARE OF THE POOR, A COMMON CONCERN; as the Preservation of RELIGION, LIBERTY, PROPERTY, AND COMMERCE now are.*

2. *The proposed POLICY would unite in one common and true Interest, &c. . . . such Union must necessarily result from the Care of the Poor being made a common Concern, and from the Matters referred to in the 3^d and 4th Articles.*

3. *The proposed POLICY would collect the POOR into such considerable Numbers, &c. . . . this is proved by what I have said concerning the Advantages which would arise from the Third and Fourth Fundamental Propositions, in Pages 112 to 115.*

4. *The proposed POLICY shews how all the POOR may be employed, &c. . . . this is made appear by what I have said upon the Sixth Fundamental Proposition, in Pages 115 to 118.*

5. *The proposed POLICY would ENRICH the NATION, &c.* . . . this depends upon the 4th Article, and as that is proved, this doth not need any other Proof.

6. *The proposed POLICY would secure to every Family a like Proportion of their ESTATE or INCOME, &c.* . . . such Security would be the certain Consequence of an Equality in the Poor's-Rates.

7. *The proposed POLICY would protect all our TRADING TOWNS, &c.* . . . such Protection must necessarily attend an Equality in the Poor's-Rates.

8. *The proposed POLICY would turn the Tables upon other COUNTRIES, &c.* . . . when our POOR are employed in making such Manufactures as we now pay MONEY for to other Nations, the Charge of maintaining *their* POOR will increase as the Charge of maintaining *our* POOR diminishes; and, by consequence, *increase the Prices* of their Manufactures in proportion as our Manufactures are made cheaper.

9. *The proposed POLICY would secure all honest poor People from perishing for WANT, and from the Necessity of STEALING:* . . . such Security would be the necessary Consequence of establishing in each County, a competent Number of Houses of Maintenance and Employment, of freely admitting into them all distressed Persons who shall apply for such Admittance, and of giving every poor Person a Right to Relief when and where he or she shall want it; as mentioned in the *Second, Third, and Fifth* Fundamental Propositions. — *The said POLICY would secure HONEST poor People from being punished as THIEVES:* . . . such Security is provided by the several Constitutional Propositions, from the *Seventy-second* to the *Eighty-ninth* inclusive.

10. *The proposed POLICY would make the Detection of BEGGING ROGUES very practicable:* . . . the Practicability of such Detection is shewn in the several Constitutional Propositions referred to in the *Ninth* Article.

11. *The proposed POLICY would secure to all working People and their Children a comfortable Maintenance, &c.* . . . this is proved by the Matters referred to in the *Ninth* Article.

12. *The proposed POLICY would make substantial Persons desirous of having more than their Proportions of poor People, &c.* . . . When the Charge of Maintaining the POOR of *England and Wales* is EQUALLY BORNE by the wealthy and the substantial People thereof, the Inhabitants of those Counties which maintain LESS than their equitable Proportions of poor People, will be to pay Equivalents in Money for the Remainders of such Proportions, to the Inhabitants of those Counties which maintain MORE than their equitable Proportions of poor People: so that the Former will not only lose all the Money which they shall so pay, but will likewise lose a Market at Home for the Corn, Cheese, Beef, &c. which would have been consumed by such poor People, if they had been maintained in the Counties which

which must pay for their Maintenance; and the said *Loffes* will be so much *Gain* to the Inhabitants of those Counties which shall maintain such surplus Numbers of poor People: — The wealthy and the substantial Inhabitants of each County would therefore *be desirous of having MORE than their equitable Proportions of Poor to maintain*, as by that Means they would not only have a greater Demand at Home for their Corn, Cheese, Beef, &c. but would gain Money from the Inhabitants of other Counties.

13. The proposed POLICY though not powerful enough to prevent such DEPOPULATION, &c. . . . this is proved, partly by the Matters referred to in the 9th Article, and partly by what is mentioned in the 12th Article.

The preceding Thirteen Articles, and the Matters therein referred to, will make it easy for any Person to judge whether I have attributed to the proposed Methods, *for Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the Poor*, more NATIONAL ADVANTAGES than are likely to result from them; but whatever may be determined thereon, it is either self-evident, or very plainly made appear, that the most considerable of those Advantages are inseparably annexed to the said Methods, and these are the Things which every Reader will naturally make the chief Objects of his Attention.

For as to the Ways and Means of obtaining such National Advantages, I am persuaded that few Readers will chuse to be at the Trouble of attending farther thereto, than is requisite to satisfy them that those Ways and Means are practicable, and consistent with *Religion, Justice, Humanity, and Liberty*: and as nothing more is necessary to being satisfied of such Practicability and Consistency, *or of the Contrary*, than for a Person to read the several Propositions, and to make use of his own Reason and Judgment therein, what might be added concerning those Propositions would be of very little, if any, real Use to the generality of Readers.

This being the Case, it will be rather improper than necessary, for me to say why I propose many of the Things herein mentioned, preferably to What may be proposed on the same Heads; especially, as it would not only be a tedious Work, but a Number of the Propositions may be altered several Ways, *and very probably for the better*, without affecting the Fundamental Part of the proposed Policy: for the Poor may be as well taken Care of by Persons bearing other Titles, or chosen for that Purpose by other Methods, than I have proposed, as if they were to be Relieved, &c. in the Manner here specified; and therefore I shall only say, that the proposed Methods are such as seem to me to promise SECURITY against *Injustice* and other *Mismanagement*, and against *Animosities and Disputes between Neighbours* on account of the Poor.

As to the Charge of carrying into Execution the several Things here proposed, I shall not pretend to make an Estimate of the Whole, because

the greatest Part thereof depends upon the Numbers of poor People to be maintained, and upon many other Matters with which I am not acquainted: but as I have proposed, that there should be A TRUSTEE AND GOVERNOR of the POOR for every PARISH, Nine COMMISSIONERS for the POOR of ENGLAND AND WALES, and Fifty-two INSPECTORS - GENERAL, into the Management of the POOR, it will be necessary to make an Estimate of the Charge of having such superior and honorary Officers.

For though it be incumbent on wealthy and on substantial Persons to devote a Part of their Time to the Discharge of Offices which the Wisdom of Government hath established for the common Good of Society, yet, such Persons are nevertheless to have a due Regard to the Welfare of their own Families; and therefore, I most humbly propose, that such of the aforesaid superior Officers, as, according to the Methods herein proposed, will be to reside in London for Three Years, or to go there to audit and pass the Accounts relating to the POOR, &c. should have Allowances towards defraying their extraordinary Expences on those Occasions.

AN ESTIMATE of the ANNUAL CHARGE of the Superior, General, and Honorary BUSINESS of Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the POOR OF ENGLAND AND WALES, according to the Methods herein proposed.

Fifty-two Inspectors-General; for their Travelling Charges, £ s D
£ 20 each, upon an Average 1,040 : — : —

For the Charge of having the Accounts examined, and for incidental Expences 500 : — : —

Nine Commissioners, each £ 300 2,700 : — : —

Secretary, Clerks, Postage of Letters, Office-Rent, &c. 1,000 : — : —

For the Travelling Charges of Six * Commissioners while visiting the Houses of Maintenance, &c. 600 : — : —

* I am in doubt whether Three Commissioners, &c. can jointly visit in a reasonable Time, 200 Houses of Maintenance, &c. in 52 Counties, and therefore have estimated for Six; Three of whom may visit in the 26 Northern Counties, while the other Three are visiting in the 26 Southern Counties.

Two Physicians, to visit and prescribe for the Sick, &c. 800 : — : —

Poor in the Houses of Maintenance, &c. each £ 400 800 : — : —

Two Surgeons, for the like Services, each £ 300 600 : — : —

Two Inspectors of Linen Manufacturies, each £ 300 600 : — : —

The Trustees and Governors of the POOR will not be required by their Office to go out of their respective Counties, nor to be frequently or long out of the Parishes wherein they reside, or have much of their Time taken up in discharging the Duties thereof, and therefore they cannot reasonably expect any Allowance for so doing; but they should be repaid the Postage of Letters, and any other Money by them expended, in and for the Business relating to the POOR.

The Total of this Estimate is . . . £ 7,840 : — : —

As the County of *York* is more than Half as large as all the Twelve Counties in *Wales*, and contains a greater Number of Houses than there are in those 12 Counties, I think it would be but reasonable, that the Inhabitants of each of the Three Ridings in *Yorkshire* should elect Two Commissioners for the Poor, but in Six successive Years; and that the People of *Wales* should, in each of those Six Years, elect Two such Commissioners for Two of their Counties: in which Case, the Right of electing Commissioners for the Poor would begin and end in *Wales* and *Yorkshire* at the same Times, and the whole Rotation would be completed in Forty-five Years.

As to the previous Steps necessary to be taken for carrying into Execution the several Methods here proposed for *Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the Poor*, I am humbly of Opinion that the after-mentioned, or some such Measures will be expedient for the said Purpose.

First, That the Inhabitants of every Parish should have an Account taken of the Numbers of poor People Maintained or Relieved at their Charge, and of the Amount of such Charge, in each Year, for 7 or 5 Years last past; — *Second*, That the Inhabitants of every Parish should then depute a respectable Parishioner to act in their Behalf at such County-Meetings as shall be held to consider of what is expedient to be done for the better *Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the Poor*; — *Third*, That when a Person shall be so deputed in the several Parishes of each County, a general Meeting of them at each County-Town should be publicly desired; — *4th*, That those Deputies should bring with them to such Meetings, the before-mentioned Accounts of the Poor in their respective Parishes, and should thereby make, or order to be made, a general Account of the Poor in each County, according to the following Form.

An Account of the medium Numbers of poor People Maintained or Relieved at the Charge of the several Parishes within the County of for such Numbers of Years last past as are expressed against the Name of each Parish respectively; and also, of the medium Annual Amount of the said Charge.					
Hundreds, Rapes, or Wapentakes	Names of the Parishes.	Numb. Years taken for.	Medium Numbers of the Poor.		The medium Annual Charge of the Poor. £ s d
			Wholly Maintained.	Relieved by Allowances.	

Fifth, That as such a general Account would enable the said Deputies in each County to form a Judgment of the Number of Houses of Maintenance and Employment which will be necessary for their Poor, that Matter should be first of all taken into Consideration; — *Sixth*, That when those Deputies, or the greater Part of them, shall have agreed as to the Number of Houses of Maintenance, &c. they should next consider and settle, what Market-Towns are most conveniently situated and best provided for those Purposes; preferring, in every Instance, where it can well be done, those Towns which are nearest equidistant from each other and from the Confines of the County, so that no

Parish therein may be above 10 or 12 Miles from a House of Maintenance and Employment; — *Seventh*, That such of those Deputies as shall chuse to propose any Thing *for the better* Relieving, Employing, or Ordering the Poor, should then offer their Propositions in writing, against each of which should be expressed the Head of Management to which the Proposition shall relate, viz. *Land, Building, Furniture, Cloathing, Provisions, Employment, Infirmary, Domestic Oeconomy, superior Officers, inferior Officers, Accounts, Removal, Punishment, &c.*; but no Arguments in support of Propositions should be taken Notice of, for such of them as shall be good will undoubtedly be thought so by many of the Deputies when read, and there would be no End to Reasoning upon so copious a Subject, among 150 or 200 Persons; — *Eighth*, That all the Propositions which shall be made concerning each Head of Management should be read one after the other without Interruption, and when so read, those Three Propositions which shall be thought the best should be immediately copied into a Book, to be provided for that Purpose; — *Ninth*, That when all the Propositions relating to each Head of Management shall have been so read, and the Three best upon each Matter or Thing shall be so copied, the Latter should be read again, and the Deputies should then determine, which of those Three Propositions is the best, . . . whether a better might not be formed out of the Three, . . . or, whether the same are not unworthy the Approbation of such an Assembly; — *Tenth*, That when the parochial Deputies in each County shall have performed the several Matters herein mentioned, they should chuse Two of their own Number for County-Deputies, to whom they should deliver the general Account of the Poor in their County, and a Copy of such Propositions relating to the Poor as shall be approved of as aforesaid; — *Eleventh*, That there should be a general Meeting in *London* or *Westminster* of those County-Deputies; — *Twelfth*, That when those Deputies shall be so met, they should cause One Account to be made of all the Poor in *England* and *Wales*, by the before-mentioned Accounts of the Poor in each County; and should likewise select from the Propositions therein approved of, such as they, or the greater Part of them, shall think best calculated for the Ends thereby proposed, &c. &c.

After such previous Steps as these shall have been taken, there will be ample and good Materials to construct a general Law for the better Relieving, Employing, and Ordering the Poor of *England* and *Wales*; and as in the Course of Seven Years after such Law shall be made, any Defects therein, or Inconveniences arising therefrom, would undoubtedly be all discovered, and proper Rules and Orders for the Purposes mentioned in the 126th, &c. Constitutional Propositions, would be by that Time agreed upon by the proposed Inspectors-General and Trustees and Governors of the Poor, all the material Regulations concerning the POOR of this NATION might then be reduced into ONE LAW.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of CHILDREN received into the FOUNDLING - HOSPITAL.

Extracted from The Gazetteer and London Daily Advertiser for Thursday 12th Oct. 1758.

From the 25th of *March* 1741, to the 31st of *December* 1757, the
Number of CHILDREN received into this HOSPITAL, is
SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED and *Ninety-four*.

Of which have been claimed and returned to their Parents, on proper Security given for their Maintenance and Education	21
Of the Boys apprenticed to Sea-Service, to Husbandry, and One placed and assigned to Mr <i>Richard Shrapnel</i> , Executor of <i>Lewin Cholmley</i> , Esq; to be brought up, educated, and provided for, according to the Will of Testator	62
Of the Girls apprenticed in small Families	43
Alive in the Country	3,611
— in the Hospital	316
— in the Hospital at <i>Ackworth</i> [in <i>Yorkshire</i>]	20
	3,947
Have died in Town and Country to the 31st of <i>December</i> 1757 . .	2,821
	6,894

N. B. Of these Children, FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED
and *Ten* have been received since the First of *June* 1756.

This Account shews that my Observations concerning the *Foundling-Hospital*
are unhappily too well founded; for it hereby appears, that the Authoritative
Encouragement and Public Support, given and granted for the said Hospital,
have, in *Nineteen Months ONLY*, increased the Number of *Foundling Children*
to THIRTY - SEVEN Times AS MANY as were admitted into that
Hospital in the like Number of Months, when the same was confined to
private Subscriptions, Donations and Legacies; and ALL THIS, in SO
SHORT A TIME, when the AWE OF RELIGION, the SENSE
OF SHAME, and NATURE's STRONGEST TIES, had not
established Custom and Example to COMBAT WITH.

There have been no less than FIVE THOUSAND Children *deserted*
and made *Foundlings* by their Parents, exclusive of a greater Number of such
Children than there is any Reason for thinking would have been *destroyed* or
deserted in the like Interval of Time, if there had not been a *Foundling-
Hospital*; which is a sad Proof, that the before-mentioned Authoritative
Encouragement and Public Support are thought by common People to be a
Justification for their having Children out of Wedlock, and for the Married
among them, to be so unnaturally wicked and cruel as to *desert* and *bastardize*
their Children.

TWO or THREE THOUSAND young Women have probably been SEDUCED by the aforefaid Means ; and, Who can reftore their *Peace of Mind* ? — Who will employ them fo that they may get an *honest Livelibood* ? — What Foundation is there to think that Nine in Ten of thofe unhappy Women will not fall VICTIMS to *Difeafe* or *Juftice* ? — And, What Reason is there then to expect that *lawlefs Population* will not caufe A RAPID DECREASE in the Number of People ?

Such are the First Fruits of a well-intended, but unhappily misguided Charity ; and yet thefe are fcarcely Half of what probably have been produced fince *December 1757*, or will be produced before *September 1759*, which is the earlieft Stop that, in *Compassion to the Wretched*, can be put to this misplaced Humanity ; even fupposing it fhould be thought expedient to fet forth in a folemn Proclamation, the Motives for fupporting the faid Hofpital, &c. &c. : fo that the whole pecuniary Expence to the PUBLIC, of making this unhappy Experiment, is not likely to be much lefs than ONE MILLION OF POUNDS *Sterling* ; and as to the *Lofs of Reputation* to SOME THOUSANDS of young Women, the little Good there is to be expected from *their deferted Offspring*, &c. I fhall leave every Reader to weigh thofe Matters in his own Breaft ; for I have faid enough to fhew that *Guilt, Difeafe, Depopulation, and Wretchednefs*, are the beft Confequences which can be expected from continuing to encourage a Manner of Life that is utterly repugnant TO RELIGION AND TO NATURE.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

In *April* laft I published a Propofal for laying an additional Duty of *Two Shillings* per 112 lb. upon SUGAR, in lieu of the then propofed Increase of Duty upon HOUSES AND WINDOWS that hath been fince laid, as the former feemed, in my humble Opinion, to be a lefs exceptionable Duty than the latter ; and upon farther Confideration, I find many Reasons for thinking that the *extraordinary Supplies* for the Year 1759 may be Raifed by an additional Duty upon SUGAR, without diftrefling the *Britifh SUGAR COLONIES*, or making SUGAR dearer in *Great Britain* than it hath been of late Years.

For which Reasons, I intend foon to publish a Propofal for that Purpofe, and to infer therein fuch Facts relating to the *African, North American, and Sugar-Colony TRADES*, as will enable Gentlemen to form a Judgment of the Reasonablenefs of laying an additional Duty upon *Sugar* as aforefaid, and of the Expediency of taking fome other Measures to encourage and extend the SUGAR TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN.



N^o I.

Day Month Year

County of

An Abstract of the Assessment for the Poor in the
said County, for One Year, commencing
30 Sept. and ending 29 Sept.

The Pound-Rate is Pence
The Produce thereof according to the Books of
Assessment is Thousand
Hundred Pounds Shillings
and Pence.

The Number of Persons assessed, is,
Thousand Hundred and viz.

	Pounds	N ^o Persons
	100	
	80	
	60	
	40	
	20	
	10	
	under	
	Ten	

Persons who possess or rent Houses,
Lands, &c. of the yearly Value of

The Total as above

N^o II.

Day Month Year

County of
The House of Maintenance and Employment at

A Monthly Account of the Numbers of Men and Women,
of the Numbers of Boys and Girls above Fourteen Years
Age, who are now in the said House and able to work.

N ^o of Wards	Men.						Women.				Other Manufacturers,		
	Husbandmen.	Labourers.	Bricklayers.	Carpenters.	Tailors.	Shoemakers.	Boys.	Chare Women.	House-Maids.	better Places.	Mantua-makers	Girls.	Men.
1													1 Wheelwright.
2													1 Locksmith.
3													2 Broad Cloth Weave
4													
5													2 Spinners of Cotton.
6													1 Bone-Lace Weaver.
													1 Embroiderer.

Manufacturers, Artificers, &c. wanted in this Neighbourhood.

1 Gunsmith.

1 Cooper.

A General Account of the Poor's Rates in the several Counties of *England* and *Wales* for
otherwise Provided for

THE POOR'S RATES.

Counties.	The Pound Rates. Pence.	The Numbers of Persons who are assessed, and the yearly Rents or Values of their Houses, Lands, &c.							The Total Numbers of the Persons Assessed.	The Total Produce of the Poor's Rates according to the Books of Assessment. £ s d	Months in which visited.	In Health.			In common Diseases.			Partly of L								
		£ 100	£ 80	£ 60	£ 40	£ 20	£ 10	under Ten.				Men.	Women.	Children under Years.			Men.		Women.	Children under Years.			Men.	Women.	u	
														21	14	7				21	14	7				21
Column 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27

hood.

N^o III.

Day Month Year

County of Day Month Year
The House of Maintenance and Employment at

An Account of the Numbers of poor Men, Women, and Children, who are now in the said House.

[illegible]

* * * * Such Children as are crippled, or maimed.

Day Month Year

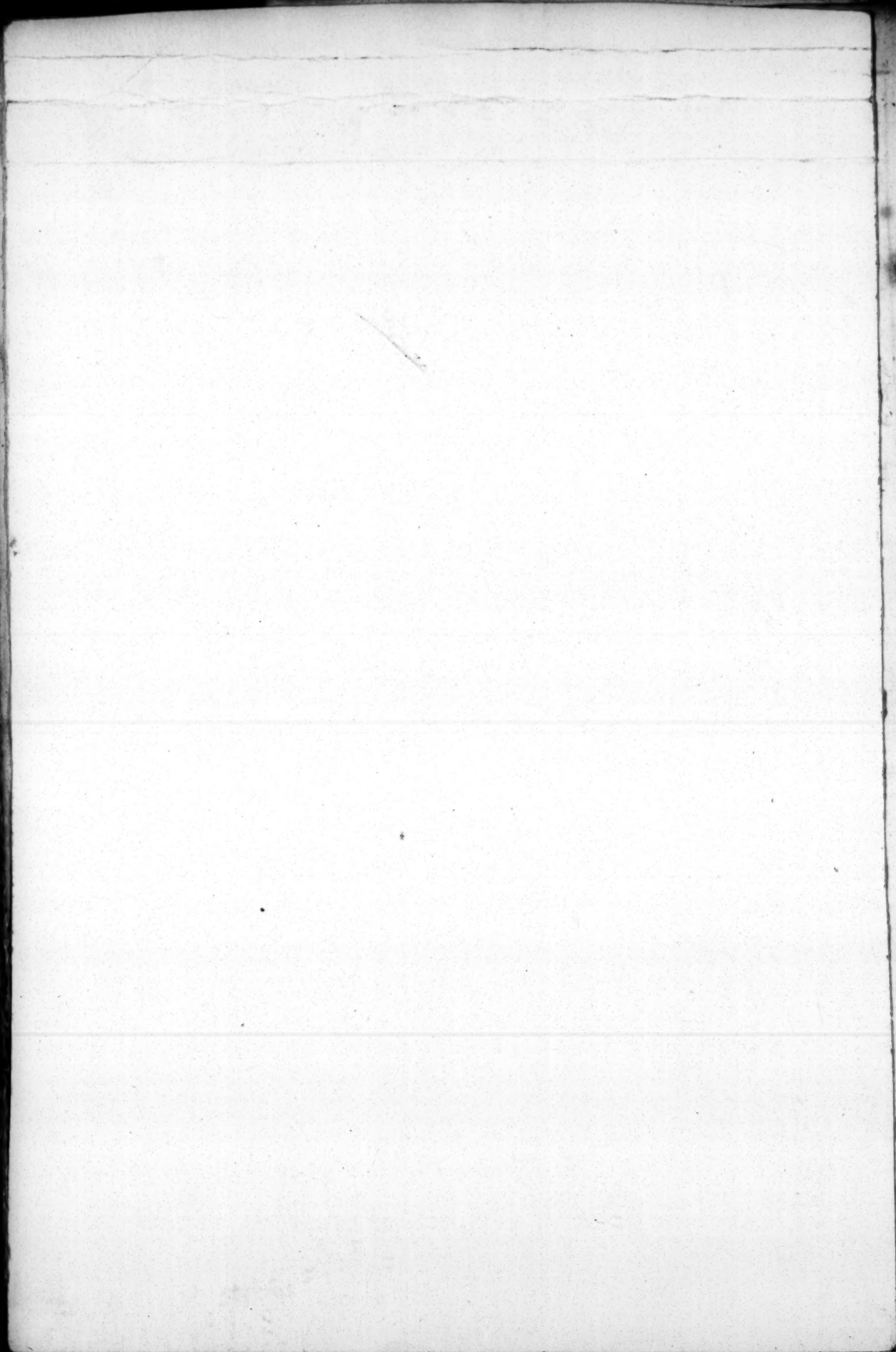
County of
The House of Maintenance and Employment at

An Account of the Numbers of such poor Men, Women, and Children now in the said House as were born in other Counties, or Countries.

[illegible]

es for One Year, from 30 Sept. to 29 Sept.; and of the Numbers of poor People therein Maintained or
vided for at the Public Charge in the said Year.

at the Public Charge, at the Maintenance and Employment.										The Numbers of such poor People Maintained at the Public Charge in each County, at the Times of visiting the Houses of Maintenance and Employment, as were born in other Counties or Countries.																	The Numbers of poor Boys and Girls who have been bound Apprentices at the Public Charge, between 24 June . . . and 25 June . . . and the Total Sums of Money paid with them.										
Partly incapable of Labour.					Wholly incapable of Labour.					Born in England.			Born in Scotland.			Born in Ireland.			In British Colonies.			Born in Foreign Dominions.				Total of Foreigners.			Places of Birth not known.								
Men.	Women.	Children under Years.			Men.	Women.	Children under Years.			Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Germany.	Switzerland.	Holland.	France.	In other Countries.	Men.	Women.	Children.	English.	British.	Foreigners.	Boys	Girls	Sums.		
		21	14	7			21	14	7																										Men.	Women.	Children.
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62



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